Election Administration Benchmarking

MARICOPA COUNTY ELECTIONS DEPARTMENT COMMUNITY NETWORK MEETING SEPTEMBER 28TH, 2011

Topics

- Benchmarking & Section 5 Submissions
- Benchmarking as Performance Management
 - Reasons to Benchmark
 - What to Measure?
 - Current Benchmarking Projects
- Cautionary Tales



DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE DEFINITION AND STANDARD FOR SECTION 5 SUBMISSIONS UNDER THE VOTING RIGHTS ACT

Section 5

- Covered jurisdictions are required to submit proposed changes to the established process/standard/benchmark—but what exactly does that mean?
- In the April 15, 2011 Federal Register (Vol. 76, No. 73) revisions to the Voting Rights Procedures were discussed and this very point addressed.
- Lets first see what the existing definition is and then review the Federal Register conversation.

28 C.F.R. PART 51--PROCEDURES FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF SECTION 5 OF THE VOTING RIGHTS ACT OF 1965, AS AMENDED

- § 51.2 Definitions.
- Change affecting voting means any voting qualification, prerequisite to voting, or standard, practice, or procedure with respect to voting different from that in force or effect on the date used to determine coverage under section 4(b) and includes, inter alia, the examples given in §51.13.

§ 51.13 Examples of changes.

Changes affecting voting include, but are not limited to, the following examples:

- (a) Any change in qualifications or eligibility for voting.
- (b) Any change concerning registration, balloting, and the counting of votes and any change concerning publicity for or assistance in registration or voting.
- (c) Any change with respect to the use of a language other than English in any aspect of the electoral process.
- (d) Any change in the boundaries of voting precincts or in the location of polling places.
- (e) Any change in the constituency of an official or the boundaries of a voting unit (e.g., through redistricting, annexation, deannexation, incorporation, reapportionment, changing to at-large elections from district elections, or changing to district elections from at-large elections).
- (f) Any change in the method of determining the outcome of an election (e.g., by requiring a majority vote for election or the use of a designated post or place system).
- (g) Any change affecting the eligibility of persons to become or remain candidates, to obtain a position on the ballot in primary or general elections, or to become or remain holders of elective offices.
- (h) Any change in the eligibility and qualification procedures for independent candidates.
- (i) Any change in the term of an elective office or an elected official or in the offices that are elective (e.g., by shortening the term of an office, changing from election to appointment or staggering the terms of offices).
- (j) Any change affecting the necessity of or methods for offering issues and propositions for approval by referendum.
- (k) Any change affecting the right or ability of persons to participate in political campaigns which is effected by a jurisdiction subject to the requirement of section 5.

Section 51.2 Definitions

The purpose of the revision to the definition of "change affecting voting" or "change" is to clarify the definition of the benchmark standard, practice, or procedure. One commenter recommended we revise this section to reflect that the benchmark is the standard, practice, or procedure in force or effect at the time of the submission or the last legally enforceable standard, practice, or procedure in force or effect in the jurisdiction. We have concluded that no further revision of this section is warranted. The Voting Section's practice is to compare the proposed standard, practice, or procedure to the benchmark. Generally, the benchmark is the standard, practice, or procedure that has been: (1) Unchanged since the jurisdiction's coverage date; or (2) if changed since that date, found to comply with section 5 and "in force or effect." Riley v. Kennedy, 553 U.S. 406, 421 (2008): Procedures for the Administration of Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, 28 CFR 51.54. Where there is an unsubmitted intervening change, the Attorney General will make no determination concerning the submitted change because of the prior unsubmitted change. In such instances, it is our practice to inform the jurisdiction there is a prior related change that has not been submitted and that simultaneous review is required. A standard, practice, or procedure that has been reviewed and determined to meet section 5 standards is considered to be in force or effect, even if the jurisdiction never implements the change because the change is effective as a matter of federal law and was available for use.



Federal Register/Vol. 76, No. 73/Friday, April 15, 2011/Rules and Regulations

21239

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Section 5 Benchmarking

• In a submission the 51.27(p) section is where the benchmark is established that the submitted proposal is to be compared to:

51.27(p) PRE-CLEARANCE OF PRIOR PRACTICE

DOJ 2005-3957 contained the existing envelope (Exhibit 11) while the large print and Braille materials were precleared in DOJ 2005-4532.

Performance Management Benchmarking



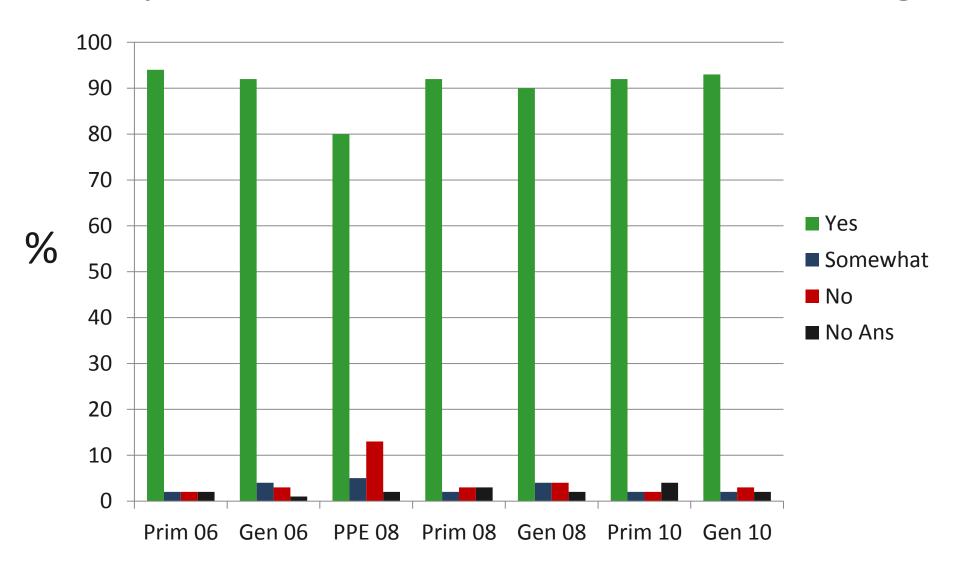
Reasons to Benchmark

Monitor Internal Performance

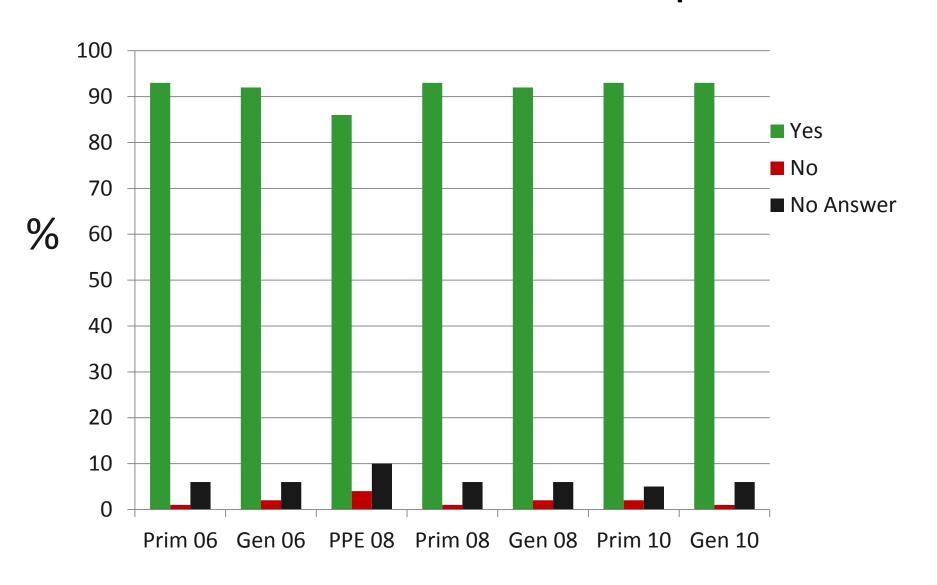
- Judge the efficacy of policy and procedure
- Identify areas in need of attention



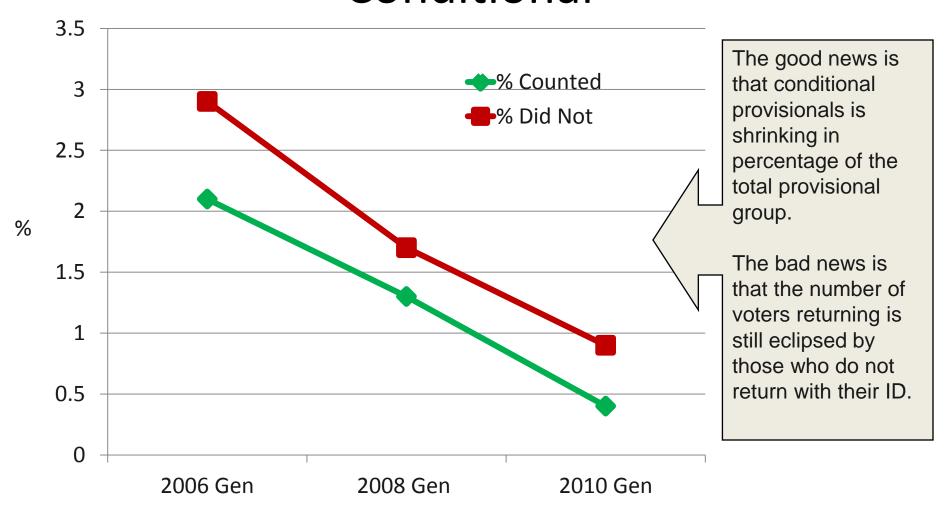
Voter Survey Comparison: Were you satisfied with the ease of voting?



Voter Survey Comparison: Were the boardworkers helpful?



% of Provisionals Which Were Conditional



Maricopa County Provisionals

	% of Ballots Cast	% Counted
 Primary 2002 	2%	78%
 General 2002 	4%	76%
 Primary 2004 	3%	76%
 General 2004 	6%	74%
 Primary 2006 	3%	74%
 General 2006 	5%	70%
 Primary 2008 	2%	76%
 General 2008 	7%	71%
 Primary 2010 	2%	78%
General 2010	5%	81%

AVERAGES: 3.9%

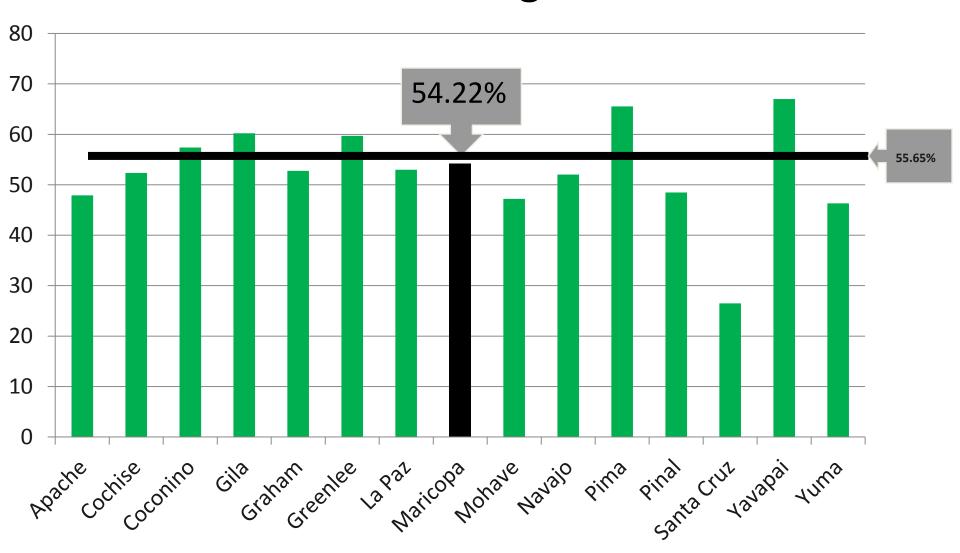
75.4%

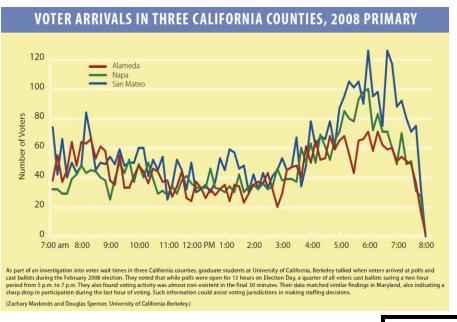
Compare to Others

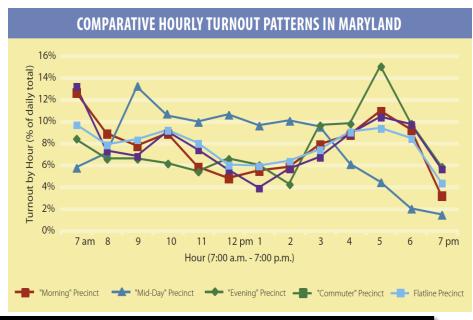
- Above, or below, the state/national average?
- Comparison to like jurisdictions:
 - In size
 - Election method (IE. Blended on-the-ground & early)
 - Section 5 coverage



General 2010 Statewide County Comparison Turnout % of Eligible Voters







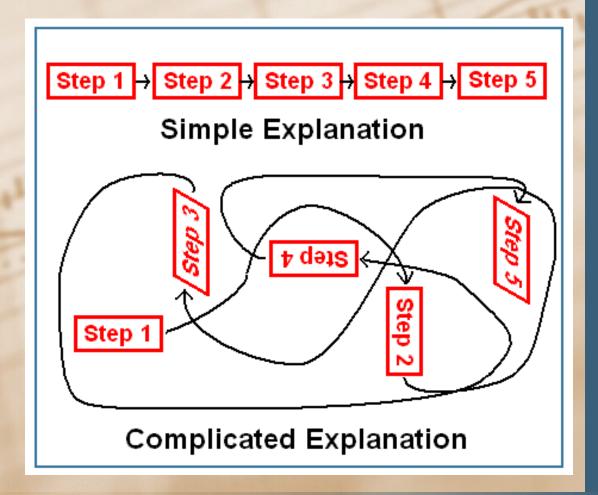
Although the charts on top are for the 2008 Primary, they reflect the traditional turnout patterns.

We can then see why the 2008 General was such an anomaly.



Explanation

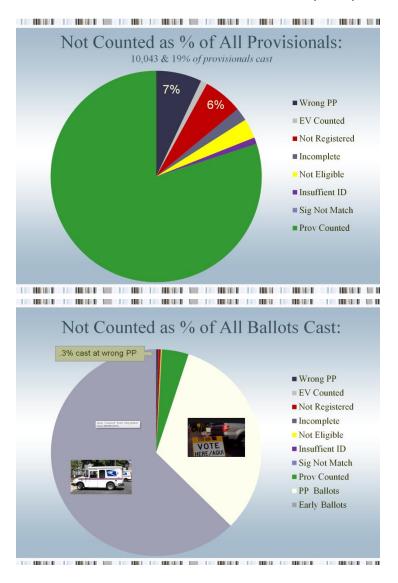
- Public
- Media
- Legislation
- Litigation

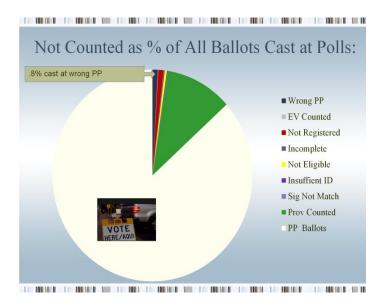


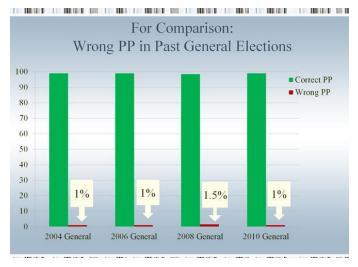
Public & Media THE USE OF DATA AS THE "ANTIDOTE TO THE ANECDOTE"

Provisional Ballots Cast at the Wrong Polling Place:

The data demonstrates that this is a small fraction of the ballots being cast and that there is a consistent level (1%) of voters going to the wrong location.

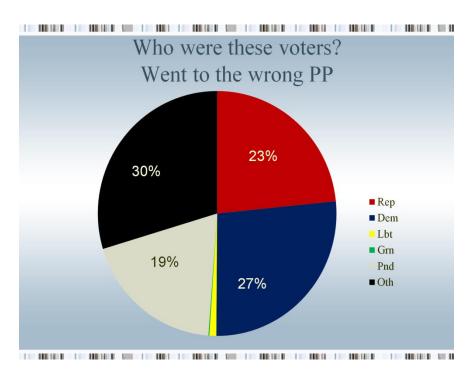


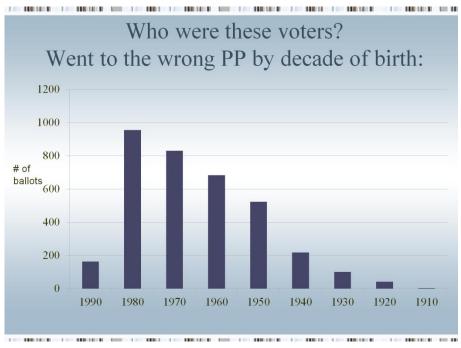




Provisional Ballots Cast at the Wrong Polling Place:

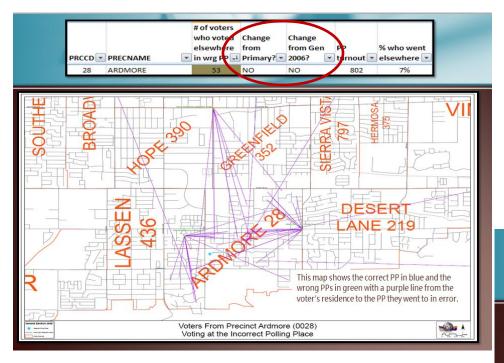
The data also shows that the voters going to the wrong location are a diverse group politically, and that our younger voters are more apt to exhibit this behavior.

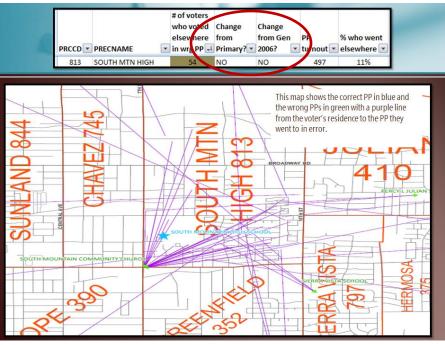




Provisional Ballots Cast at the Wrong Polling Place:

The data also shows that many of the locations where the most voters cast a provisional incorrectly are not in places where the polling place has moved.

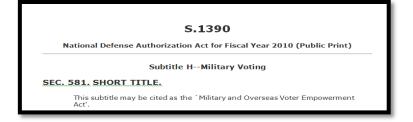


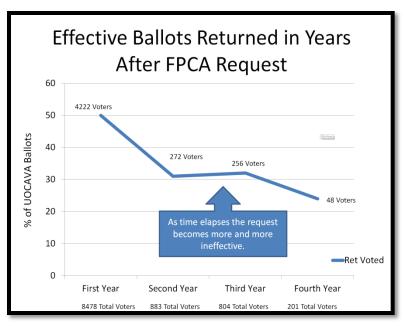


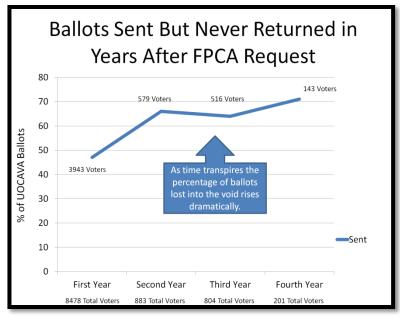
Legislation & Litigation BOTH FEDERAL & STATE



FPCA Efficacy & the MOVE Act



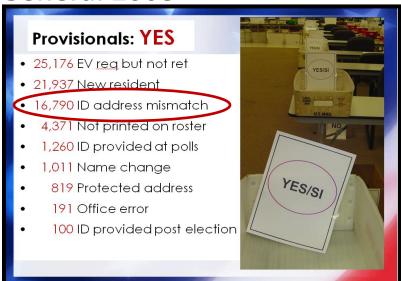




- Maricopa County Elections provided data on the likelihood a UOCAVA voter will
 cast an effective ballot based on the impact of the period of time which has
 elapsed since the FPCA was submitted by the voter.
- This was some of the information utilized in the MOVE Act which negated the requirement default of 4 years covered status.
- Voters can still designate that they need that period of coverage, it is just no longer the default timeframe.

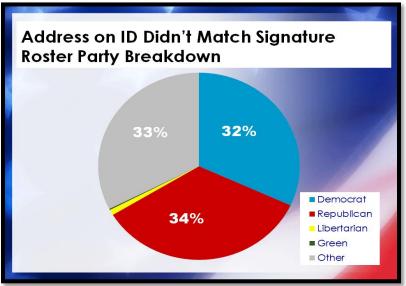
ID Address Matching & Provisional Ballot Increases

General 2008



 16,790 voters voted a provisional ballot because the address on their ID didn't match the way they were registered.

General 2008



 The party affiliation of these voters demonstrated that this was impacting ALL voters.



2009 State Legislation

Boardworker training sample:



Changes to ID Law Passed!

- The Legislature passed changes to the ID requirement
- The changes have been submitted to the Department of Justice and will be in effect for the November election.

 House Bill 2627 passed and was then signed by the Governor on July 14th, 2009

Boardworker training sample:

There are now 3 lists the voter can choose from:

List 1: Photo ID

List 2: Non-photo ID

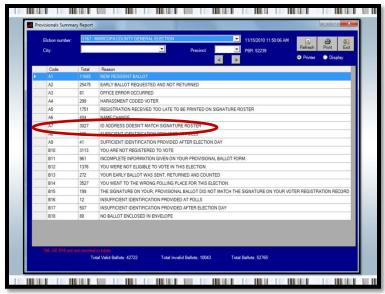
List 3: Mix & Match



 The changes were precleared by DOJ on October 29th, 2009

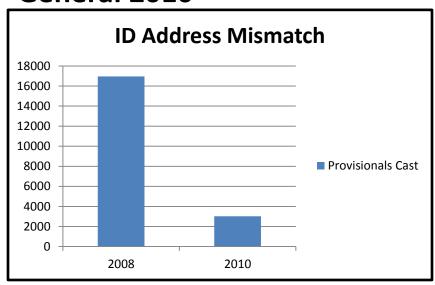
ID Address Matching & Provisional Ballot Increases

General 2010



 3027 voters voted a provisional ballot because the address on their ID didn't match the way they were registered.

General 2010

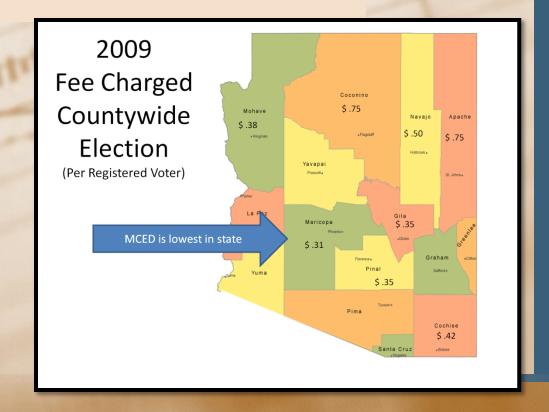


 That is a decrease of more than 13,000 provisional ballots!

(This is Pres vs. Midterm so will see the real impact next year)

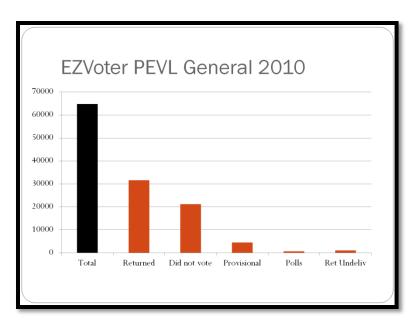
Justification

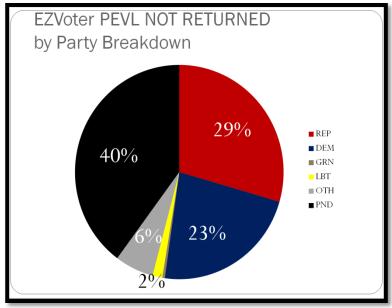
- Maintenance of resources
- Forecasting of future needs



PEVL & EZVoter

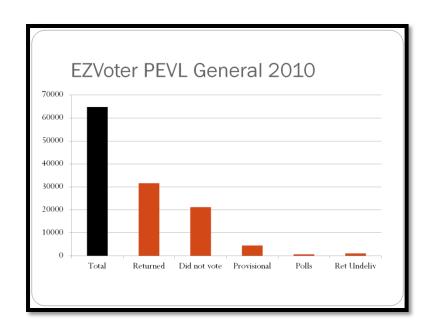
- In the 2010 General Election almost a third of MC voters who signed up for the PEVL on the online VR service, EZVoter, did not return their ballot.
- Almost 7% ended up voting a provisional ballot at the polls.





PEVL & EZVoter

- As of January 2011, after 6 months of offering PEVL online, slightly more than 78% of online voters selected to be on PEVL.
- January September 2011 MCED has had 198,190 voters use the service which could translate into almost 11,000 provisionals if the trends hold.

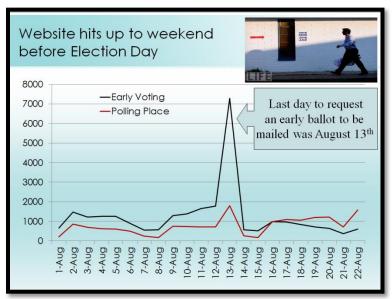


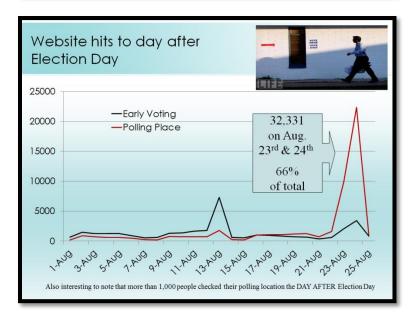
But, because we know this, we can have this be a focus of public outreach and education to mitigate the impact.

Remind your constituents to vote the ballot mailed to them, or to remove themselves if they don't want to be on PEVL

Expansion of Online Services

 More than 84,000 voters used the internet to request an early ballot or look up their polling place in the 2010 Primary Election.







Election Benchmarks

- **WHAT** to measure is many times determined by **WHY** something is being measured and by **WHOM**.
- What do we ultimately want to use this information for?
 From one local administrator's perspective, the goal would be:
 - to use the data to inform policy decisions,
 - to review the status quo, and
 - to empower voters by ensuring that equal access is available.

Indexing & Comparison

- If the goal is to encourage certain administrative practices which provide increased access, then it would be helpful to quantify:
 - Voter registration requirements for eligibility
 - Points of access to registration (Can voters register online?)
 - Number of voting options (early, by mail, etc.)
 - Number of days/hours voting is available
 - Number/average voters designated to polling place
 - Number of workers/machines/resources at each PP
 - What information is available to voters online?

Indexing & Comparison

- If another goal is to review and encourage efficacy:
 - Number of training classes conducted for a General election per "X" number of voters
 - Frequency of training (yearly, each election, etc)
 - Are election administrators required to have any training/certifications?
 - Are Logic & Accuracy tests conducted? At what frequency?
 - What type of audit procedures are in place?
 - How transparent is the process?

	inct Name or Number/ Non- illing Place Today/ o Su Lup	nbre o Número de su Recinto: gar de Votación Hoy:	: Pyle Cont		
		?/¿Necesitó usted algún tipo d t you? / ¿Trajo usted a alguien		Yes/ Si	
Language	Idioma Physical/ Fisica	¿Qué tipo de ayuda necesitó Instructional/ De Instru	acciónOther/ Otra	THE STATE OF	
Were the	No Comments/ Con	e prestaron ayuda Jos Oficiales sentarios: 4 / VCI	& Elecciones?	res + w	ell prepared
Were you	atisfied with the case of vo	ting?/¿Se sintió satisfecho/a o	on lo fácil de la votación	Yew Si X N	o Somewhat /Algo _
alguna.reco	mendación o sugerencja sobr	r suggestions on how Marico re la forma en la que el Depar la SF a Luli-	rtamento de EJécciones del		
		War Name & No.	mber / Su Nombre y Nún		

Sources of Information

INTERNAL

Voter Registration File

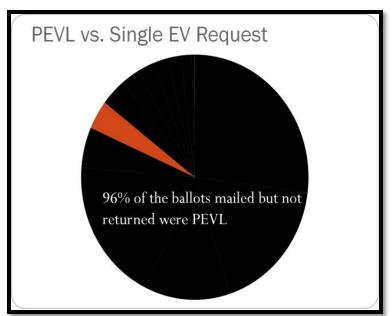
- Voter characteristics (DOB, surname, party affiliation)
- Voting methods (PEVL, EV center, PP)
- Voter history
- Source tracking (dates etc.) for registration, EV application

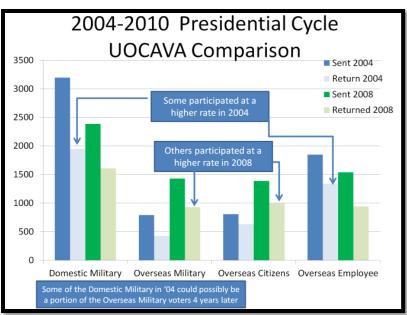


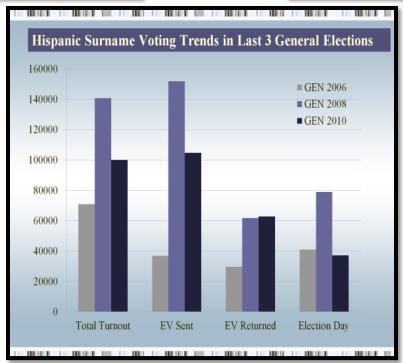
[1] Permanent Early Voting List -	Early Ballot (see instructions	above)			BOX FOR OFFICE USE OF	NLY			
YES, I want to automatically re	,		eligible		e				
NO, I DO NOT want to automa				BOX will	0				
remove my name from the list									
[2] Last Name		First Name				Middle	Name	Jr/Sr/III	
[3] Address <u>where you live</u> – If no Do not use post office box or b	street address, describe res usiness address. Draw a ma	idence location using n up below if located in ru	nileage, cros ral area.	is streets, p	varcel #, subdivision name an	d lot, or	landmarks.	[4] Apt/Unit/ Space	
[5] City	[6] Zip	[7] Address where you	ı get your m	ail, if mail i	s not delivered to your home				
Last four digits of Social [9] AZ Driver License Number or AZ Nonoperating License Number			[10] O	[10] Optional Tribal Identification Number			[11] Alien Registration Number		
[12] Birth Date (MWDDYYYY)	YYYY) [13] State or Country of Birth [14] Party Pri				[15] Telephone Number [16] Occupation				
[17] If you were registered to vote including county and state	in another state, list former a	address	Democ	ratic	[18] List former name (if app	licable)	[19] Father's nam mother's mai		
20] Are you willing to work at a po	lling place on election day?	[21] E-mail address				[23] If n	no street address dr	aw a map here	
(22) Are you a citizen of the Will you be 18 years of WOTER DECLARATION – By significant, I am NOT a convicted it	of age on or before election	in day? Yes	No these of formation is	questions, true, that	I am a RESIDENT of		Î		
Χ						W -		— Е	
SIGN HERE				DATE					
[24] If you are unable to sign the t	form, the form can be comp	leted at your direction.	The persor	who assis	sted you must sign here.		s		
SIGNATURE OF PERSON ASSI	STING			DATE					
Remove tape and fold to mail							Remove tape a	nd fold to mail>	

VOTER'S NAME:			elecciones en que pue	by mai	omatically receive an early ball i (without having to request each for each election) mark the bo
HOMERE DEL VOTANTE!_		1		, below,	complete and return this card.
RESIDENCE ADDRESS: DIRECTION DE DONICILIO	DAIT/APELLISO	FIRST FRAMER	MODILE / SEGUNDO	Pe	erk this box to be added to the manent Early Voting List.
	* These resided at this selbrace at least 25 * He contidds on sels-Britanian per to make	One before a city, town, school election 25 diam artists for one election do co	e, CHYCLUSAD and punters records	ZPZONA Me	rque el cuadrito para agregarse on la Permanente de Votscion Temprai
MAILING ADDRESS: DIRECCIÓN DE CORRIGO:	ACCHESSORECO		1		ecibir una boleta temprana p automáticamente (sin ten
UPDATE YOUR REGISTR	ATION - COMPLETE THIS SECTION	I / PARA PONER AL DIA SU RI	EGISTRO - COMPLETE ES	ASSESSION QUE SO	dicitaria cada vez que haya un n) marque el cuadrito de amb
NEW RESIDEN	DE BALLOT, CHECK THIS B	OX IF YOU REQUEST TH	E COUNTY TO CHANG	e Your comple	oté y devuelva esta tarjota.
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FERNERADO	REST/DRECORN AVIENCE	PLACE OF RIPTY, DRIV	OTYCHOAD ER'S LICE OF LAST FOUR DIG		NSH / ESPANOL Para Informacia oobro Formato Altern CNO CYCCHUW Barrar of 602-566-151
			LICENCIA o CUNTRO DISTOS PAS		260 CCCROS cases in anti-see-13
FOREST	NAME / INCREME ANTERNOM			▼ ► DATE	OF BIRTH: DE MACHIENTO

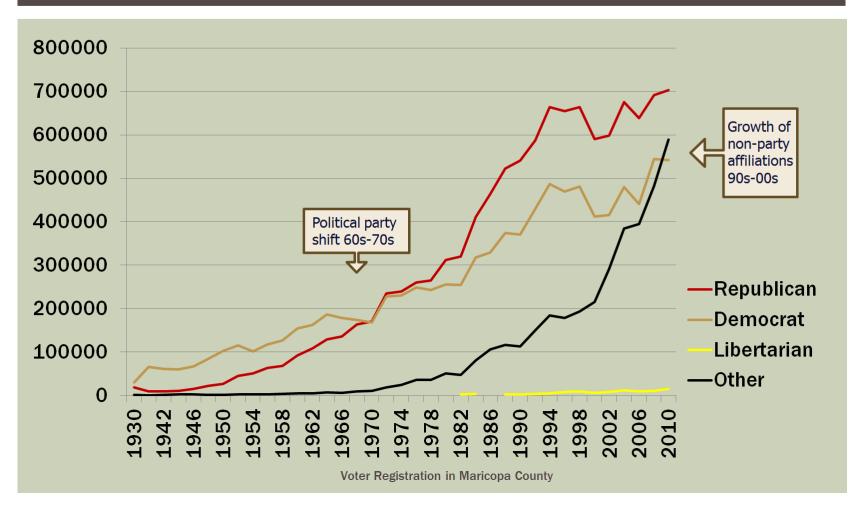






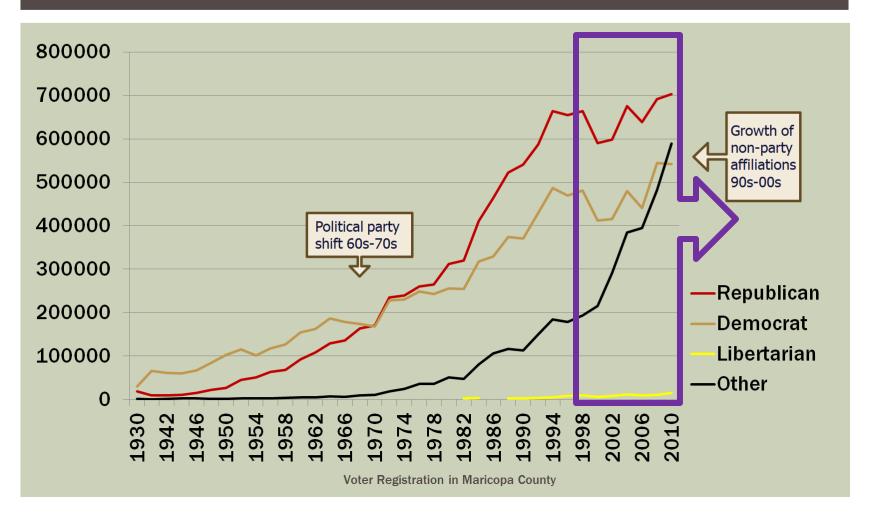


PARTY VOTER REGISTRATION TRENDS SINCE 1930



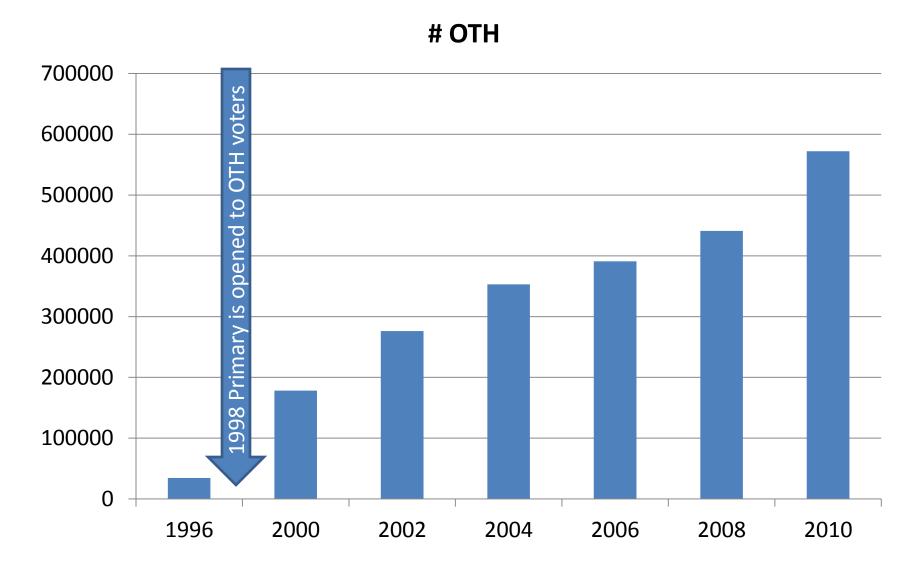
Long-term trends can be identified and administrative adjustments may be necessary (IE. Review of EV request cards for Primary, etc.)

PARTY VOTER REGISTRATION TRENDS SINCE 1930



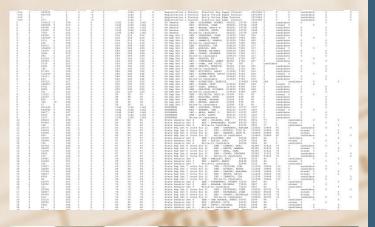
This demonstrates the impact in our semi-open primary (1998) and how it may have impacted the rise in voters not registering to a recognized party.

Number of Voters Not Registered to a Political Party:



Canvass Data

- Turnout
- Precinct-level results

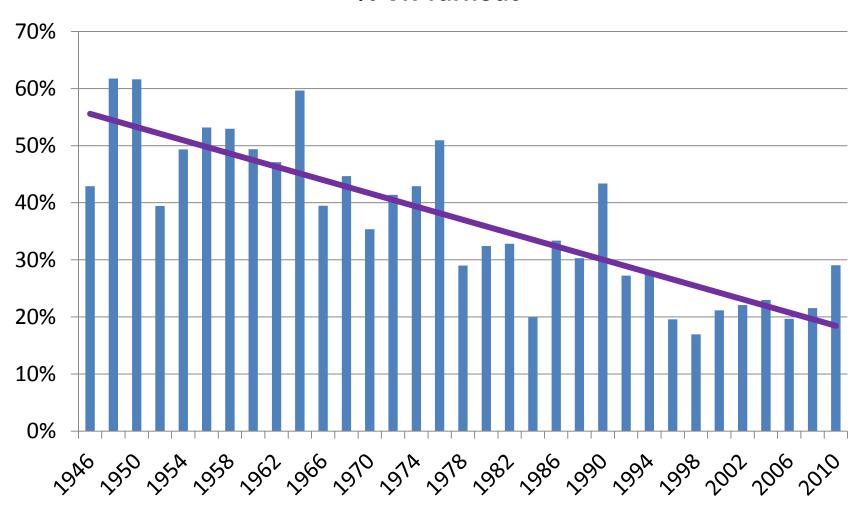






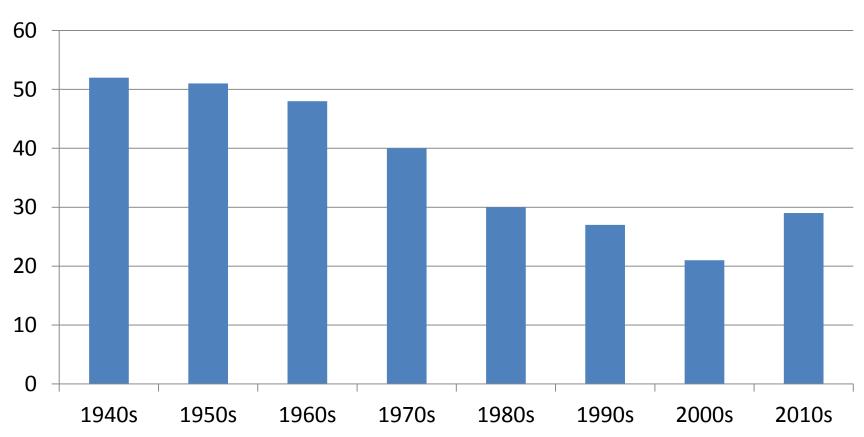
Primary Turnout of Eligible Registered Voters:

% VR Turnout

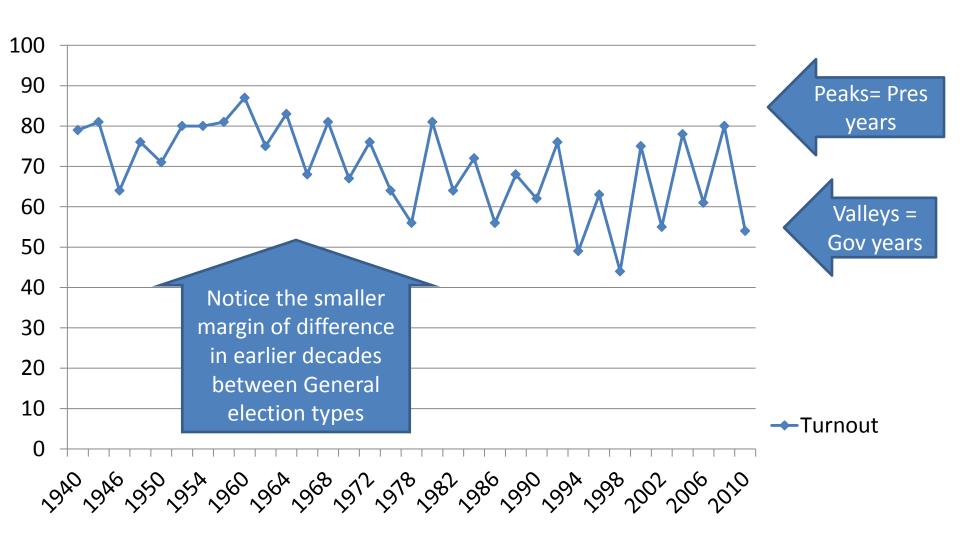


Average Primary Turnout by Decade of Eligible Registered Voters

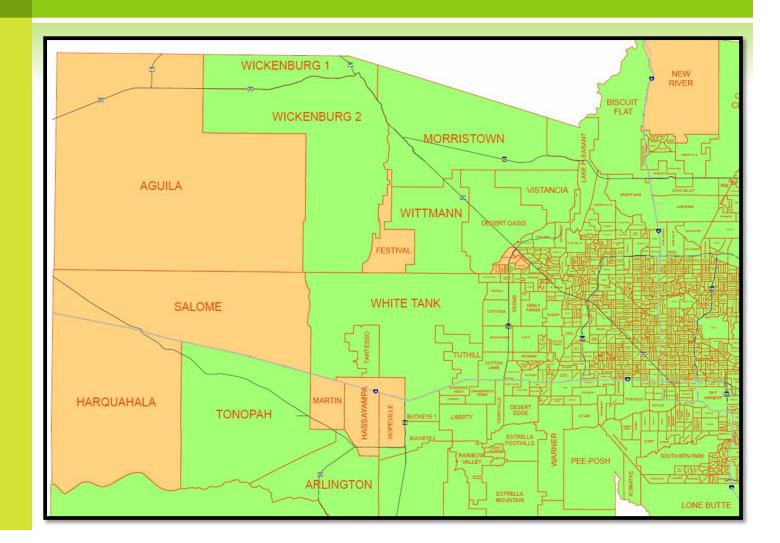
% Turnout



Voting Trends in General Elections

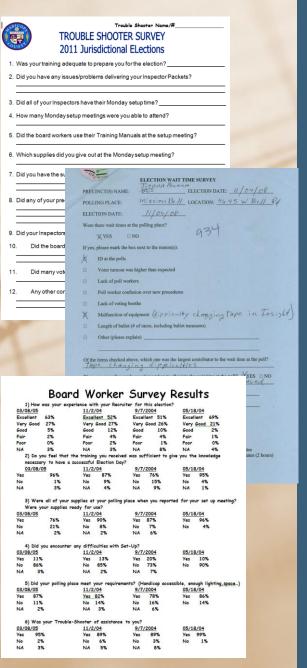


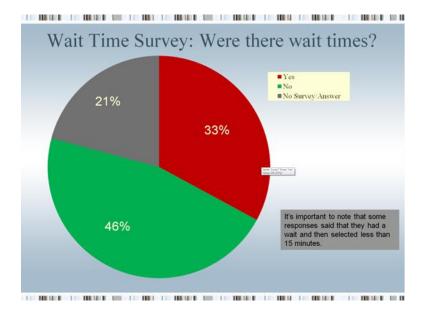
PROP 100 RESULTS: AREAS WHICH VOTED "NO"

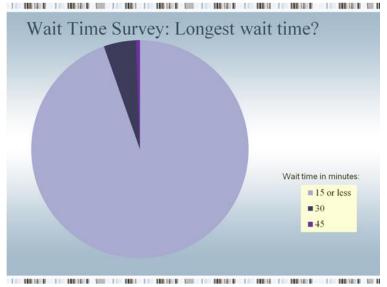


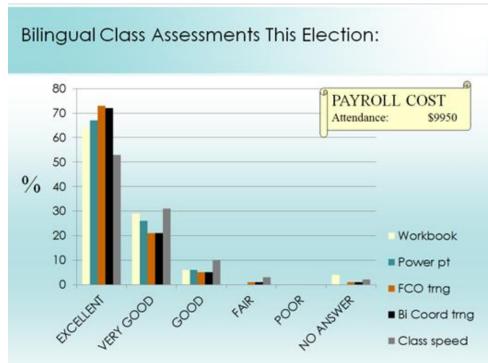
Public Surveys

- Voter surveys
- Boardworker surveys
- Trouble Shooter surveys
- Wait time surveys (General Elections)
- Training class assessments









Internal Tracking

- Website usage
- Reporting System

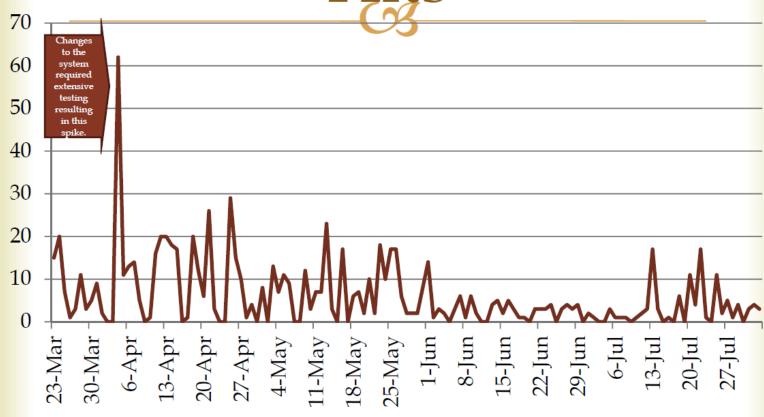


MARICOPA COUNTY ELECTIONS DEPARTMENT

ELECTION REPORTING SYSTEM



Redistricting Website Hits



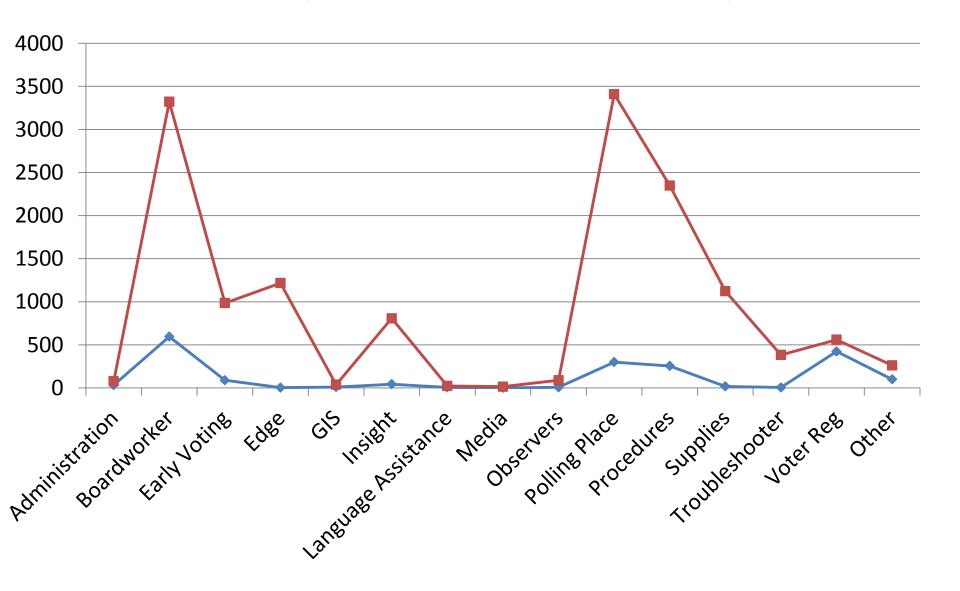
823 total hits (not just public use) March 23rd – August 2nd, averaging 6 a day.

Reporting System Summaries Voter Source

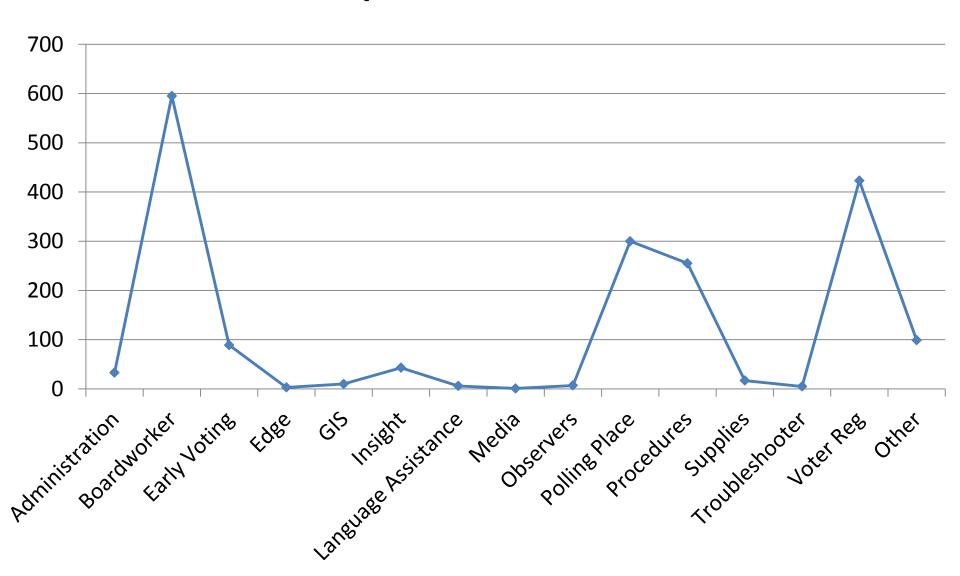
2006-2010



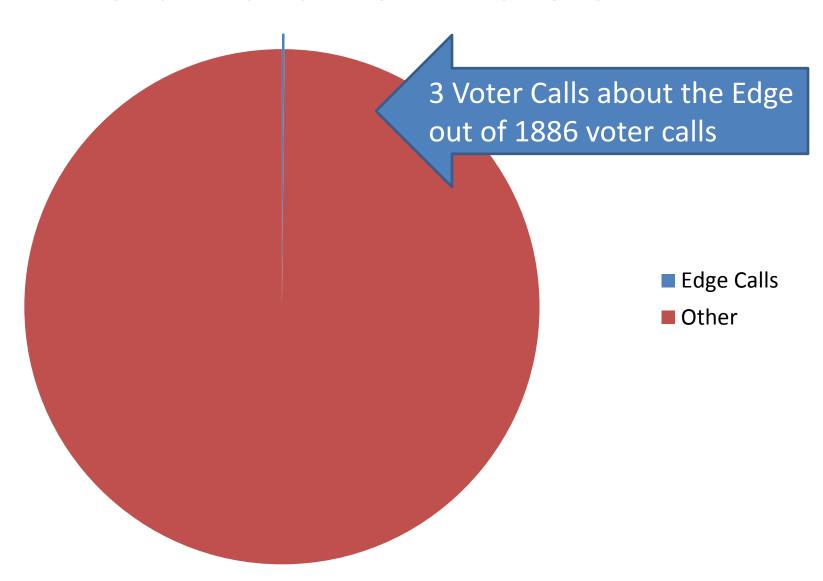
Total Reports vs. Voter Reports



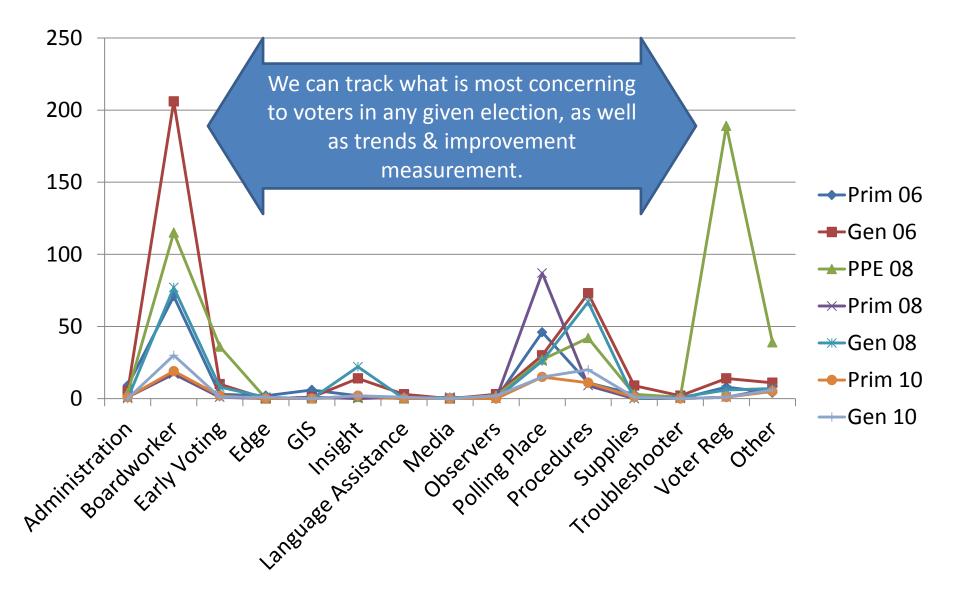
Total Reports From Voters



Total Calls from Voters



Total Calls From Voters



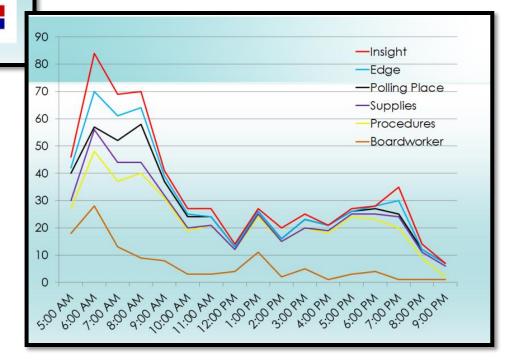
Reporting System

- 1295 Reports over 652 Precincts:
 - 298 concerning boardworkers
 - 319 about procedures
 - 104 about supplies
 - 91 about the Edge (touchscreen)
 - 98 about the polling place
 - 63 about the Insight (optical scan)
 - 21 about "other"—electioneering was most prevalent
 - 17 about voter registration
 - · 2 about language assistance
 - 2 about observers

MARICOPA COUNTY ELECTIONS DEPARTMENT
ELECTION REPORTING SYSTEM

We can also track by the times of the calls coming in as well as category of issue and the source.

This is a sample from Primary 2010:



Sources of Information EXTERNAL

EAC Election Day Survey

- Congressional mandates to collect information on:
 - NVRA: voter registration,
 - UOCAVA: military and overseas voting
 - HAVA: voting technology, administrative procedures



U.S. ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION 2010 Election Administration & Voting Survey

SECTION A

VOTER REGISTRATION

EAC is mandated by the National Voter Registration Act (NVRA) to collection information from states concerning the impact of that statute on the administration of Federal elections. With this information EAC is required to make a report to Congress and provide recommendations for the improvement of Federal and State procedures, forms, and other NVRA matters. States that timely respond to all questions in this survey concerning voter registration related matters will meet their NVRA reporting requirements under 42 U.S.C. § 1973gg-7 and EAC regulations.

Roadmap to Section A:

- A1, A2 and A3 ask for information about the number of registered voters in your jurisdiction and how you calculate
 those statistics.
- A4 asks for information about registration activity on days in which it was possible for a person to both register and vote on the same day.
- A5 asks for information on all registration forms for all types of registration transactions (successful and unsuccessful) received by your office.
- A6 asks for the <u>sources of all registration forms</u> (both successful and unsuccessful).
- A7 asks for the sources of new registrations.
- A8 asks for the sources of <u>duplicate</u> registrations.
- A9 asks for the sources of <u>invalid or rejected</u> registrations.
- A10 asks for information on <u>removal notices</u> sent under NVRA Section 8(d) 2.
- A11 asks for the number of <u>voters removed</u> from the voter registration rolls and the reason for their removal.

SECTION B UNIFORMED & OVERSEAS CITIZENS ABSENTEE VOTING ACT (UOCAVA)

Section B serves as the EAC's standardized format for the state reporting of UOCAVA voting information as required by 42 U.S.C. §1973ff-1. States that complete and timely submit this section to the EAC will fulfill their UOCAVA reporting requirement under 42 U.S.C §1973ff-1(c).

Pursuant UOCAVA, this section collects various data elements needed to determine: (1) the combined number of absentee ballots transmitted to UOCAVA voters; (2) the combined number of ballots returned by UOCAVA voters; and (3) the combined number of returned ballots cast by UOCAVA voters (the number of cast ballots is practically determined by collecting data concerning the total votes counted and rejected).

Roadmap to Section B:

- B1 and B2 ask for information about the number and type of UOCAVA absentee ballots transmitted.
- B3 asks for the number and type of all UOCAVA ballots returned and submitted for counting.
- B4, B5, B6, and B7 asks for information on the type of UOCAVA ballot returned by type of UOCAVA voter.
- B8 asks for the number and type of all UOCAVA <u>ballots counted</u>.
- B9, B10, B11, and B12 asks for information on the type of UOCAVA ballot counted by type of UOCAVA voter.
- B13 asks for the number and type of all UOCAVA <u>ballots rejected.</u>
- B14 asks for information on <u>reasons</u> why UOCAVA ballots were <u>rejected</u>.
- B15, B16, B17, and B18 asks for information on the type of UOCAVA ballot rejected by type of UOCAVA voter.

SECTION C

Domestic Civilian Absentee Ballots

Roadmap to Section C.

- C1 asks for information about absentee ballots transmitted and the status of the transmitted ballots.
- C2 and C3 ask for information on any voters who may be registered as permanent absentee voters.
- C4 asks for information on the <u>status</u> of absentee ballots <u>returned and submitted for counting</u>.
- C5 asks for information on the reasons absentee ballots were rejected.

SECTION D

Election Administration

- D1 asks for information on the number of <u>precincts</u> in your jurisdiction
- D2 asks for information on the number and type of polling places in your jurisdiction
- D3, D4, and D5 ask for information on poll workers utilized in the November 2010 general election.

SECTION E

Provisional Ballots

- E1 asks for the information on the number and status of provisional ballots <u>submitted</u>.
- E2 asks for the information on reasons why provisional ballots were rejected.

SECTION F

Election Day Activities

- F1 and F2 ask for <u>turnout</u> figures for the November 2010 general election and the source used to arrive at this number.
- F3 asks for the number of <u>first time voters who registered to vote by mail</u> and, under HAVA 303(b), were <u>required to provide identification in order to vote</u>.
- F4 asks for information on <u>electronic poll books or electronic lists of voters</u> that may have been used.
- F5 and F6 ask for information on <u>printed poll books or printed lists of voters</u> that may have been used.
- F7 asks for the type of primary voting equipment used.
- F8 solicits any <u>additional comments</u> jurisdictions may wish to share regarding their Election Day experiences.

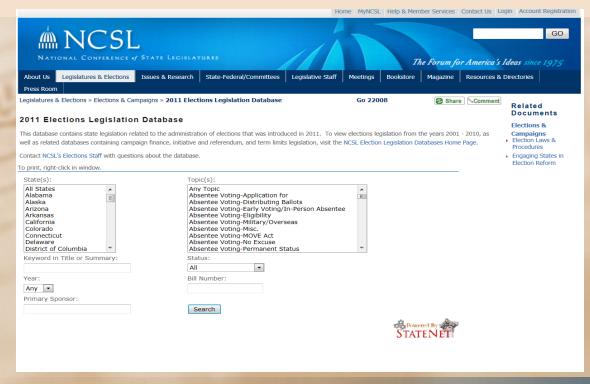
Census

- Voting Age Population
- Curent Population Survey (CPS)



National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL)

 Their website database on election legislation is very helpful in understanding where some of the data comes from and why:



The Ohio State Moritz College of Law is a repository of election cases, their judgments, and other analysis



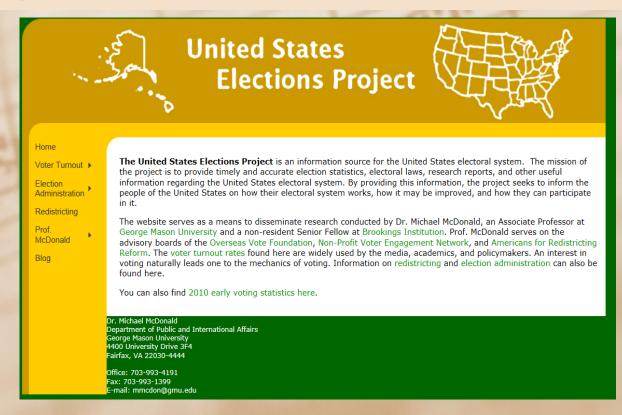
2008 Key Questions for Key States | McCain v. Obama | Election Law Journal | From Registration to Recounts | Citizens United

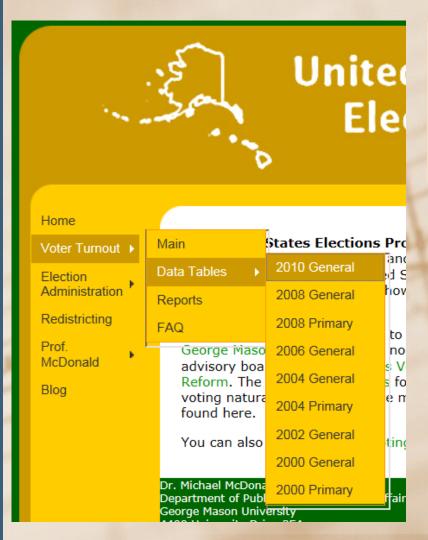


Election Law @ Moritz | The Ohio State University Michael E. Moritz College of Law | electionlaw@osu.edu

Please note: Election Law @ Moritz is nonpartisan and does not endorse, support, or oppose any candidate, campaign, or party. Opinions expressed by individuals associated with Election Law @ Moritz, either on this web site or in connection with conferences or other activities undertaken by the program, represent solely the views of the individuals offering the opinions and not the program itself. Election Law @ Moritz institutionally does not represent any clients or participate in any litigation. Individuals affiliated with the program may in their own personal capacity participate in

 The United States Elections Project at George Mason University is a great resource of data.





 Data tables are available for the last decade as well as summary analysis

The Caltech/MIT
 Voting
 Technology
 Project has a
 wealth of
 information on a
 number of
 election subjects.



Caltech/MIT Voting Technology Project

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• Election Integrity -Past, Present & Future

(5 day

 Fifth Annual NYU-CESS Experimental Political Science Conference Save the Date

(158 days

 Fifth Annual NYU-CESS Experimental Home >>

Data

<u>US Election Assistance Commission: 2008 Election Administration & Voting Survey</u>

Submitted by gbain on Tue, 12/22/2009 - 17:08.

The ongoing process of improving America's election systems relies in part on having accurate data about the way Americans cast their ballots. In 2002, Congress chartered the U.S. Election Assistance Commission to collect information on the state of American elections and make it widely available to policy makers, advocates, scholars, journalists and the general public. Since 2004, the Commission has sponsored an Election Day Survey as its primary tool for fulfilling that mission. We are pleased to present the 2008 Election Day Survey, and we ask for your help in

Read more 1 attachment

2008 Survey of the Performance of American Elections

ibmitted by gbain on Tue, 12/22/2009 - 15:30.

Executive Summary

This study is based on the responses to an Internet survey of 200 registered voters in each of the 50 states, for a total of 10,000 observations overall. Individuals were asked about their experience voting—either in-person on Election Day, in-person early, or absentee voting. Non-voters were also surveyed. Below is a summary of key findings from the report.

2 attachments

2008 Super Tuesday - Survey Questionnaire

Submitted by gbain on Tue, 12/22/2009 - 15:19.

1 attachment

Questionnaire: Decision to Vote and Reasons for Not Voting

Submitted by gbain on Tue, 12/22/2009 - 15:17.

Questions dealing with experiences voting during the November 2008 general election.

1 attachment

2007 Pilot Survey

Submitted by gbain on Tue, 12/22/2009 - 15:15.

1 attachment

OTHER SITES

NPPV Reports [Pew] @

State-by-state laws

Secretaries of State

[NCSL] 🗗

[NASS] 🖗



BLOG FAQ RESOURCES OUR RESEARCH

Early Voting Information Center

Search

ABOUT EVIC

We are a non-partisan academic research center based at Reed College in Portland, Oregon.

Professor Paul Gronke and his team conduct research on early voting and election reform, predominantly in the United States.

ELECTION 2010

Early voting calendar

Resources

There is a growing body of data pertaining to non-precinct-place voting available online. Much of it is still scattered around state, county, and other local offices, but there are several useful datasets and resources.

Election Day Survey

The US Election Assistance Commission (EAC) has run a national Election Day Survey every two years since 2004. The data on election administration and voting collected from local election officials are publicly available on the EAC's website. While early survey data are largely incomplete (for many survey items) and prompted serious academic criticism, later iterations of the survey have improved dramatically. Moreover, the Election Day Surveys are on their way toward creating an incomparable time-series dataset of election administration and voting metrics in the US.

Non-Precinct Place Voting in the States

Jonathan Nagler (New York University), Jan Leighley (University of Arizona), Nathan Cemenska and Daniel P. Tokaji (University of Ohio) compiled a dataset of state laws governing non-precinct place voting across the country. The dataset runs from 1972 through 2008 and includes the relevant statutes at each presidential election within that

Ballot Integrity and Voting by Mail: The Oregon Experience

As part of the Carter-Baker Commission on Federal Election Reform, Dr. Gronke submitted a memorandum outlining Oregon's vote-by-mail experience. This map was intended to help the Commission identify best practices for vote-by-mail systems, highlight potential pitfalls, and guide the Commission's deliberations as they evaluated the rapid expansion of by-mail voting.

See also the full commission report.

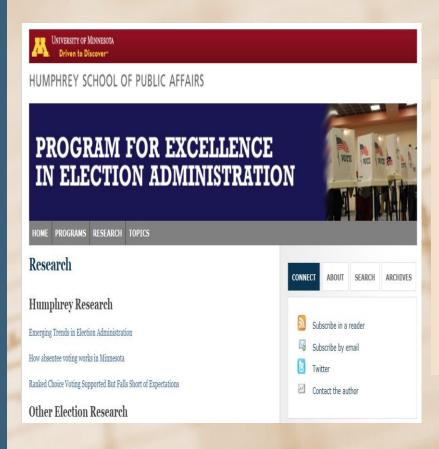
Election Administration in the United States @

Joseph Harris's landmark 1934 book on election administration, available in full on the NIST website.

 The Early Voting Information Center at Reed College focuses on study of early voting

trends

Academic Studies & Resources



 The Humphrey School of Public Affairs at the University of Minnesota has an Election Administration program which includes research findings.

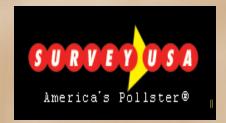
Polls

- In addition to the many news and media outlets which conduct polls and opinion surveys, there are multiple companies which also poll the public.
- Polling and surveyance is one way to get immediate, timely answers to how the public *feels* and *thinks*, but there can be issues with the data in regards to what the public *does* because of issues with self-reporting biases.









Gender, Race, Age and Voting: A Research Note

Stephen Ansolabehere & Eitan Hershy

- In a recent paper by Harvard University Political Science Professor Ansolabehere and Yale University Political Science Associate Professor Hershy the issue of erroneous selfreporting is addressed when reviewing registration and turnout participation.
- By comparing voter histories to the comparable studies of the CPS they have identified great disparity in conclusions drawn on voting behaviors of various populations and call for a move to use fact-based analysis rather than survey data:

- "We are at an historical moment in political science. We can study political participation not by administering surveys but by observing the full population based on official records and consumer profiles."
- "This finding is just an initial step in a move to rethink the nature of political participation based not on what people say they do but on what they actually do."





Election Administration Policy Recommendations



- Group: Project Vote
- Data: Statutory Overview
- Comments: The real issue with this summary is that it failed to take into consideration the volume of administrative tasks that are not specified in statute, but are rather contained in the Secretary of State's Procedures Manual (which has the cause and effect of law). We brought this to their attention, but no changes were made.
- Here is the difference it makes:

Recommended Early Voting Practices

	ΑZ	СО	FL	MI	МО	NC	NM	NV	ОН	PA	VA
Early voting with same-day registration is permitted						•			•		
Early voting sites are disbursed through jurisdictions in multiple locations		_	~			•	~	•			
Early voting hours extend into evenings and weekends					~	~		~			
Information on early voting is made available on near contemporaneous basis											

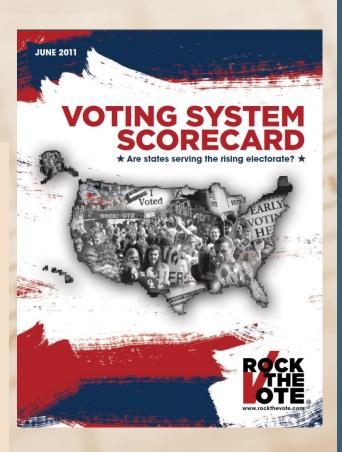
Actually the ONLY state with ALL checked! (But do not know if others are incorrect as well...)

Recommended List Maintenance Practices

Voters are notified about pending cancellation of	ΑZ	СО	FL	MI	МО	NC	NM	NV	ОН	PA	VA
registrations			•	•			•			•	•
Cancelled voters' records are made public	•	•	•			•	•	•	~	•	
Cancelled voters' records are kept on file for two years	~	V	~			~			~	✓	
"Exact Match" standards are used for data matching											~
Election officials use multiple databases for matching											
List maintenance activities are uniform, non-discriminatory, and on a date-specific timetable				•		•	~				~

Voting System Scorecard

- Group: Rock the Vote
- Data:
 - Census CPS
 - Academic studies
 - Congressional Research Service
 - Reports from FVAP, National Conference on State Legislatures, Brennan Center for Justice at NYU School of Law, Pew Center on the States, & Overseas Vote Foundation
- Focus: Particular attention paid to young voters



Methodology

- States are given possible points based on the grid to the right.
- Administrative procedures
 were assigned a score
 based on a value judgment
 of what would be desirable,
 another organization may
 allocate differently.

SCORECARD KEY

Voter Registration	Best Score
Automatic registration	3
Permanent and portable registration	1
Same Day Registration	3
Online voter registration	3
Third-Party Registration Drives	1
REGISTRATION SUBTOTAL	11
Casting a Ballot	Best Score
Convenience voting	2
Voter ID	2
Residency requirements	1
Absentee laws	1
Military and overseas voters	1
VOTING SUBTOTAL	7
Young Voter Preparation	Best Score
Civics education	2
Pre-registration	1
PREPARATION SUBTOTAL	3
OVERALL BEST SCORE	21

Definitions: Voter Registration

Automatic Registration (3 points possible)

The holy grail of automatic registration would be immediately registering every newly eligible voter when they turn 18, become citizens, or are discharged from prison by using data from official government sources (e.g., the DMV, education records, tax records, Selective Service, Immigration Services). This does not yet exist in any state.

Scoring:

- 1 point: partially or fully automated at motor vehicle agencies
- 2 points: fully automated at motor vehicle and other state service agencies
- 3 points: automatic registration upon voters becoming eligible

Permanent and Portable Registration (1 point possible)

Scoring:

· 1 point: automatic address updates or providing voters the ability to update their registration at the polls

Definitions: Voter Registration

Same Day Registration (3 points possible)

Scoring:

· 3 points: SDR for all elections

Online Voter Registration (3 points possible)

Scoring:

· 3 points: online voter registration system

Restrictions on Third-Party Registration Drives (1 point possible)

Scoring:

· 1 point: no deputy registrar program or other onerous restrictions on third-party voter registration drives

Definitions: Casting Ballot

Convenience Voting (2 points possible)

Scoring:

· 2 points: allowing in-person voting prior to Election Day or vote-by-mail

Voter Identification Requirements (2 points possible)

Scoring:

- · Zero points: most restrictive range of photo ID
- · 1 point: broader range of acceptable forms of identification or photo ID requirement with ability for voter to sign an affidavit if not in possession of photo ID
- · 2 points: identity must be verified, but no formal documentation required

Definitions: Casting Ballot

Residency Requirements (1 point possible)

Scoring:

- · Zero points: restrictive residency laws that make it difficult for students without intent to remain in-state after school to establish residency
- \cdot 0.5 points: no explicit legal protections for students who want to register and vote where they go to school, but provides ability for students to establish residency
- · 1 point: explicit legal protections for students who want to register and vote where they go to school

Absentee Voting (1 point possible)

Scoring:

- · Zero points: very restrictive laws, including prohibitions against first-time voters voting absentee
- · 0.5 points: additional requirements such as providing an excuse with absentee ballot request and getting ballot notarized or witnessed
- · 1 point: voter-friendly laws, including no notarization or witnessing requirements

Definitions: Casting Ballot

Military and Overseas Voting (1 point possible)

Scoring:

- · 0 to 1 point based on FVAP assessment of state policies
- Arizona is one of the highest states in our policies addressing the additional obstacles that UOCAVA voters face.
- 10 other states received a .9 score along with Arizona
- Maine was the only state to score the full 1 point

• Arizona scores:

5 of 11 Registration

- 4.9 of 7 Voting

0 of 2Preparation

• Total: 9.9 of 21

• Rank: 17th

* VOTING SYSTEM SCORECARD *

	Automaric	Perman	Online	Same D	Third.P	Regist	Voter ID e	Convenio	Residence	Absented	Oversear	Voting	High Scho	Pre-Regie.	Prepar	TOTAL	% SCO	OVERA
Best Possible Score	3						2					7	2	1	3		100%	
Alabama	0	0	0	0	1	- 1	1	0	0.5	0.5	0.3	2.3	2	0	2	5.3	25%	45
Alaska	0	0	0	0	1		1	2	0.5	0.5	0.5	4.5	0	0	0	5.5	26%	T-43
Arizona	1	0	3	0	1	5	1	2	0.5	0.5	0.9	4.9	0	0	0	9.9	47%	17
Arkansas	1	0	0	0	1	2	1	2	0.5	0,5	0,9	4.9	0	0	0	6.9	33%	T-35
California	1	0	0	0	- 1	2	2	2	1	1	0.8	6.8	2	1	3	11.8	56%	T-10
Colorado	0	1	3	0	0	4	1	2	0.5	1	0.6	5.1	0	0	0	9.1	43%	T-21
Connecticut	0	0	0	0	1	i	1	0	0.5	1	0.7	3,2	0	0	0	4.2	20%	48
Delaware	2	1	3	0	0	6	ī	0	0.5	0.5	1.0	3.0	2	1	3	12.0	57%	T-7
District of Columbia	1	1	0	3	1	6	2	2	1	1	0.8	6.8	1	0	1	13.8	66%	3
Florida	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	0.5	i	0.8	5.3	0	1		7.3	35%	34
Georgia	1	0	0	0	1	2	0	2	0.5	1	0.7	4.2	2	0	2	8.2	39%	27
Hawaii	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	2	0.5	1	0.6	4.6	0	1	1	6.6	31%	T-38
Idaho	0	1	0	3	1	5	1	2	0	1	0.8	4.8	0	0	0	9.8	47%	T-18
Illinois	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	1	1	0.8	6.9	0	0	0	6.9	33%	T-35
Indiana	0	0	3	0	1	4	0	2	0.5	0.5	0.9	3.8	0	0	0	7.8	37%	28
	0	-									0.9	6.9				13.9		20
Iowa	1	0	0	3	1	5	0	2	1	1		4.9	2	0	2		66%	9
Kansas							-		1	_	0.9			_	=	11.9	57%	
Kentucky	1	0	0	0	1	2	1	0	1	1	0.7	3.7	2	0	2	7.7	37%	29
Louisiana	0	0	3	0	1	4	1	2	1	1	0.4	5.4	2	0	2	11.4	54%	12
Maine	0	1	0	3	1	5	2	2	1	1	1.0	7.0	0	0	0	12.0	57%	T-7
Maryland	0	1	0	0	1	2	2	2	-1	1	0.8	6.8	2	1	3	11.8	56%	T-10
Massachusetts	0	0	0	0	- 1	- 1	2	0	1	1	0.8	4.8	0	0	0	5.8	28%	42
Michigan	1	0	0	0	-1		-1	0	-1	0	0.6	2.6	2	0	2	6.6	31%	T-38
Minnesota	0	1	0	3	- 1	5	2	0	1	1	0.8	4.8	0	0	0	9.8	47%	T-18
Mississippi	0	0	0	0	-1		2	0	-1	0.5	0.9	4.4	2	0	2	7.4	35%	33
Missouri	0	0	0	0	- 1	- 1	1	0	0.5	0.5	0.5	2.5	2	0	2	5.5	26%	T-43
Montana	0	-1	0	3	-1		- 1	2	- 1	-1	0.9	5.9	2	0	2	12.9	61%	4
Nebraska	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	-1	1	0.9	6.9	2	0	2	8.9	42%	24
Nevada	0	0	3	0	1		2	2	0.5	-1	0.9	6.4	0	0	0	10.4	50%	15
New Hampshire	0	1	0	3	0		2	0	-1	-1	0.7	4.7	0	0	0	8.7	41%	25
New Jersey	1	0	0	0	-1		2	0	-1	-1	0.7	4.7	0	0	0	6.7	32%	37
New Mexico	0	0	0	0	0		2	2	0.5	1	0.9	6.4	2	0	2	8.4	40%	26
New York	0	0	0	0	-1		2	0	-1	-1	0.6	4.6	2	0	2	7.6	36%	T-30
North Carolina	- 1	1	0	3	-1		2	2	0.5	0.5	0.8	5.8	0	1	1	12.8	61%	T-5
North Dakota						N/A	-1	2	0.5	-1	0.9	5.4	0		N/A	N/A	N/A	*
Ohio	0	1	0	0	- 1	2	1	2	0.5	1	0.6	5.1	2	0	2	9.1	43%	T-21
Oklahoma	0	0	0	0	1		0	2	0.5	0,5	0.8	3.8	0	0	0	4.8	23%	T-46
Oregon	0	1	3	0	1	5	2	2	1	1	0.8	6.8	0	1		12.8	61%	T-5
Pennsylvania	1	0	0	0	1	2	2	0	1	0.5	0.8	4.3	0	0	0	6.3	30%	T-40
Rhode Island	1	0	0	0	1	2	2	0	0.5	0.5	0.3	3.3	0	1		6.3	30%	T-40
South Carolina	1	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0.5	0.5	0.8	1.8	0	0	0	3.8	18%	T-49
South Dakota	1	1	0	0	1	3	1	2	1	0.5	0.8	5.3	2	0	2	10.3	49%	16
Tennessee	0	0	0	0	1	1	i	2	0	0.5	0.8	3.8	0	0	0	4.8	23%	T-46
Texas	1	0	0	0	0	-	0	2	1	1	0.5	4.5	2	0	2	7.5	36%	32
Utah	0	0	3	0	1	4	1	2	0.5	1	1.0	5.5	0	0	0	9.5	45%	20
Vermont	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	2	1	1	0.6	6.6	0	0	0	7.6	45% 36%	T-30
Virginia	0	0	0	0	1	-	1	0	0,5	0.5	0.6	2.8	0	0	0	3.8	18%	T-49
	1										0.8	6.2		0				
Washington		1	3	0	1	6	2	2	0.5	1	-		2	_	2	14.2	68%	1 7 24
West Virginia	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	2	0.5	1	0.6	6.1	2	0	2	9.1	43%	T-21
Wisconsin	0	1	0	3	1	5	0	2	1	0.5	0.6	4.1	2	0	2	11.1	53%	13
Wyoming	0	- 1	0	3	0	4	2	2	-1	-1	0.8	6.8	0	0	0	10.8	51%	14

*North Dakota does not have voter registration. Applying only the non-voter registration metrics - such as all of the voting metrics and the civics score - the state receives 60% of the possible points (S. 4 out of 9). If North Dakota is given 11 points available for voter registration and 1 point for pre-registration, its total score would be 17.4 out of 21 or 83%, the highest in the country.

^{**}As of May 31, 2011.24

Civic Health Index

 Group: Center for the Future of Arizona & The National Conference on Citizenship

Data : CPS Survey

Focus: Public behaviors & Civic Engagement





Center for the Future of Arizona 541 East Van Buren, Suite B-5, Phoenix, Arizona 85004 602-496-1360 www.ArizonaFuture.org

www.ArizonaFuture.org www.TheArizonaWeWant.org 2011 ARIZONA CIVIC HEALTH INDEX







Measures

- This project is more sociological in that it analyzes behaviors of the general public in relation to participating in an engaging way with the greater community.
- This includes being informed, as well as taking action.

ACTIONS THAT BUILD COMMUNITY

The Civic Health Index includes a set of nine indicators that measure how connected people are to one another. The more connected people are, the more likely they are to participate in civic life.

Connect with Family, Friends and Neighbors

2011 Report (2010 Data)	Nation	Arizona	Rank
Eat dinner together most days	88.1%	87.4%	34 th
Talk with family, friends online frequently	54.3%	58.3%	16 th
Talk to neighbors frequently	42.3%	43.9%	22 nd
Do favors for neighbors frequently	15.2%	17.9%	9 th

Participate in Civic Life

2011 Report (2010 Data)	Nation	Arizona	Rank
Belong to one or more groups	33.3%	31.5%	40 th
Attend meetings about local issues	9.2%	9.4%	29 th
Volunteer	26.3%	23.9%	41 st
Work with neighbors to fix something	8.1%	8.3%	28 th
Make charitable contribution of \$25 or more	50.0%	51.3%	29 th

Express

The 2011 survey demonstrated that although there was a decline in the number of Arizonans who discuss politics frequently (from 39.1% to 27.2%) and an increase in those who answered "Not at all" (from 30.9% to 34.7%), the ranking went up nationally from 32nd to 21st



27%of Arizonans said they discuss politics frequently, higher than the national average.

ACTIONS THAT INFLUENCE GOVERNMENT

Express Political Views

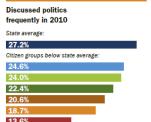
Two key indicators of civic engagement are how frequently we discuss political issues with one another and how often we contact our elected public officials. In last year's report, Arizona's performance on these two indicators was based on citizen responses to questions about their actions in 2008-2009. This year's report, the 2011 Arizona Civic Health Index, captures citizen responses about their actions in 2010.

5. Discuss Politics with Family, Friends

2010 Report (2008-2009 Data)	AZ	Nation	Rank
Frequently	39.1%	39.3%	32 nd
Infrequently	29.9%		
Not at all	30.9%		
2011 Report (2010 Data)	Δ7.	Nation	Dank
			Name
			21st
Frequently Infrequently			







What Happened? Less political discussion was reported in all states compared to 2008-2009, a Presidential election year. However, Arizona rose in the 2011 rankings because the frequency of our political discussions with family and friends was higher than the national average in a Midterm election year. Similarly, a modest 3 percentage point increase in Nevada moved the state from 50° to 18° in the nation.

2011 Top 10: District of Columbia, South Carolina, Oregon, Maine, Maryland, Alaska, Wyoming, Vermont, Mississippi, Alabama

The Arizona We Want Goal: Increase political discussion by a minimum 2.8 percentage points (the difference between Arizona and #10 Alabama), especially among citizen groups reporting participation below the state average.

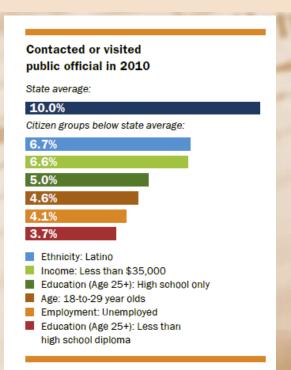
Education (Age 25+): High school only

- Geographic: Suburban
- Income: Less than \$35,000
 Age: 18-to-29 year olds
- Employment: Unemployed
 Education (Age 25+): Less than

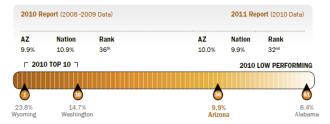
Education (Age 25+): Le high school diploma

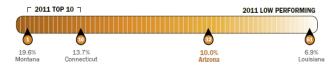
Contact

• Each section looks at what citizen groups fall below the state average—a benchmarking within the state in addition to comparison to other states.



6. Contact or Visit a Public Official





10% of Arizonans said they contacted or visited a public official in 2010.

Contacted or visited public official in 2010

State average:

10.0% Citizen groups below state average:

6.6%

5.0%

4.1%

- Ethnicity: Latino
- Income Less than \$25.00
- Education (Age 25+): High school only
- Age: 18-to-29 year olds
- Employment: Unemployed
- Education (Age 25+): Less than high school diploma

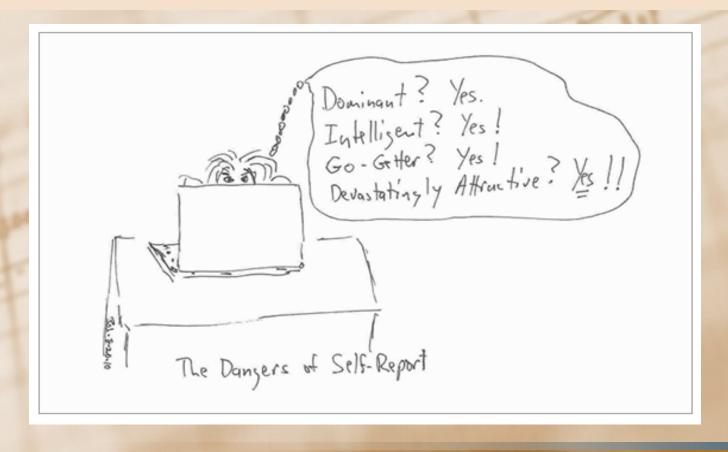
What Happened? Arizona was one of 17 states reporting more citizen contact with public officials in 2010. Mississippi led the nation with an increase of 4.2 percentage points, moving them from 45th in the nation last year to 20th in 2011.

2011 Top 10: Montana, Vermont, Alaska, District of Columbia, Maine, Oregon, Wyoming, South Dakota, New Mexico, Connecticut

The Arizona We Want Goal: Increase citizen contact with elected officials overall by a minimum 3.7 percentage points (the difference between Arizona and #10 Connecticut), especially among citizen groups reporting participation below the state average.



• Sourcing this type of review based on the surveyance of the public would make sense, however when it comes to traditional election's metrics (such as registration and turnout) it can be problematic as we mentioned previously.



Voter Registration

- Again, this is based on how the voter responded to the survey, not on actual registration or voting/canvass data.
- MCED was really pleased to see that the 2011 report used VEP.
- (However, traditional turnout in official canvasses is the reported turnout of registered voters, not of the entire eligible population.)

KEY FINDINGS

How Arizona Compares to the Nation

ACTIONS THAT INFLUENCE GOVERNMENT

In last year's 2010 Arizona Civic Health Index, Arizona's performance was based on citizen responses about their participation in the 2008 Presidential election and other civic behaviors during 2008-2009. This year's report captures citizen responses about their participation in the 2010 Midterm election and other civic behaviors during 2010.

Voter Registration & Turnout (2010 Midterm Election)

2011 Report (2010 Data)	Nation	Arizona	Rank
Arizona Voter Registration	65.1%	66.0%	27 th
Among 18-to-29 year olds	49.2%	52.3%	14 th
Arizona Voter Turnout	45.5%	48.8%	18 th
Among 18-to-29 year olds	24.0%	30.6%	9 th

Express Political Views

2011 Report (2010 Data)	Nation	Arizona	Rank
Discuss politics with family, friends	26.0%	27.2%	21 st
Contact or visit a public official	9.9%	10.0%	32 nd

Note: All voter registration and voter turnout percentages are based on the number of **eligible citizens** who reside in Arizona based on U.S. Census data. This method is used by CIRCLE to create state rankings and trend lines due to variations in state policies regarding absentee ballots, how registered voters are qualified for counting, etc.

Voter Registration: Survey Issues

- Voters may not actually be registered, but think that they are because they registered once, when they turned 18, in another state (or at another address, etc.).
- Voters may still be registered, but not think that they are, because they haven't voted for a long time and they may think that is a necessary requirement to stay registered.
- With that said, lets see what this year's report showed.

Register

- This demonstrates that in 2010 Arizona moved to 27th from the former midterm position of 48th in 2006.
- Interesting to note that of those who were unregistered 35.3% said not interested, but 19.8% said that they didn't meet the registration deadline.



Arizona

was one of only 10 states to increase voter registration in 2010.

In North Dakota, citizens do not have to register to vote by law, and was therefore not included in this ranking.

ACTIONS THAT INFLUENCE GOVERNMENT

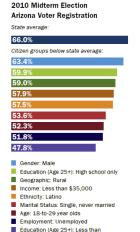
Voter Registration & Voter Turnout

The most powerful way for citizens to influence government is by voting – choosing leaders to govern, manage the public life of our nation and address the challenges that confront the state and our local communities. Because Presidential election years have consistently higher voter turnout than Midterm election years, the 2011 Arizona Civic Health Index separates data on Midterm elections from data on Presidential elections.

1. Voter Registration (2006 - 2010 Midterm Elections)

2006			2010			
AZ	Nation	Rank	AZ	Nation	Rank	
62.1%	67.6%	48 th	66.0%	65.1%	27 th	





high school diploma

What Happened? Arizona was one of 10 states that increased voter registration in the 2010 Midterm election. Arizona (+3.9%) and South Carolina (+3.8%) experienced the largest increases, a key factor in moving both states up in the national rankings. It is believed the statewide debate over SB 1070 helped drive citizen participation in Arizona's 2010 Midterm election.

2010 Top 10: Maine, Louisiana, Vermont, Mississippi, Washington, Minnesota, Michigan, Oregon, Iowa, Wisconsin

The Arizona We Want Goal: Increase voter registration in the 2014 Midterm election by a minimum 4 percentage points (the difference between Arizona and #10 Wisconsin), especially among citizen groups reporting participation below the state average.

Challenges: In the fall 2010 U.S. Census Current Population (CPS) Survey, 35.3% of unregistered citizens report they are not interested in politics or elections, 19.8% report they did not meet registration deadlines, and 18.8% report other reasons for not registering.

Vote

- In addition to increased registration, Arizona moved from 32nd to 18th in turnout as reported by the voter.
- 30% of those surveyed said that they did not vote because they were too busy, 11% said they weren't interested or felt their vote wouldn't make a difference.

2. Voter Turnout (2006 - 2010 Midterm Elections)

2006			2010			
AZ	Nation	Rank	AZ	Nation	Rank	
46.4%	47.8%	33 rd	48.8%	45.5%	18 th	





Arizona exceeded the national average for voter turnout in 2010.



What Happened? Arizona was one of 13 states that increased voter turnout in the 2010 Midterm election. The gains ranged from as low as 1 percentage point to as high as 10 percentage points in Louisiana. For the first time since 1974, Arizona exceeded the national average for Midterm voter turnout. It is believed that the statewide debate over SB 1070 helped drive citizen participation in Arizona's 2010 election.

2010 Midterm Election Arizona Voter Turnout

State average:

Citizen groups below state average:
44.8%
43.9%
42.6%
41.0%
39.2%
38.3%
33.8%
33.0%
30.5%
Education (Age 25+): High school only

- Geographic: Rural
- Age: 30-to-45 year olds
- Income: Less than \$35,000
- Employment: Unemployed
- Marital Status: Single, never married
- Education (Age 25+): Less than nigh school diploma
- Age: 18-to-29 year olds

2010 Top 10: Maine, Washington, Oregon, North Dakota, Vermont, Minnesota, South Dakota, Wisconsin, Colorado, Iowa

18-to-29 Year olds: Voter turnout among 18-to-29 Year olds in Midterm elections increased from 23% in the 2006 Midterm election to 31% in 2010, an increase that moved Arizona from 37th to 9th in the national rankings. Other top 10 states for this age group in 2010 include Oregon, North Dakota, South Carolina, Minnesota, Washington, South Dakota, Maine, the District of Columbia and Colorado. State rankings are not available for other demographic groups.

The Arizona We Want Goal: Increase voter turnout in the 2014 Midterm election by a minimum 3.5 percentage points (the difference between Arizona and #10 lowa), especially among citizen groups reporting participation below the state

Challenges: In the fall 2010 U.S. Census CPS Survey, nearly 30% of Arizonans who did not vote indicated they were too busy and the election conflicted with their work or school schedules. Nearly 11% said they weren't interested and felt their vote wouldn't make a difference.

Convenience Voting

- Early voting is an ever-increasing trend.
- In Arizona we see
 more votes cast this
 way than the
 national average.
- But more people nationally vote early at voting locations than by mail.

52% of Arizonans in the 2010 Midterm election said they voted by mail.



It is interesting to note however that in the 2010 General, although we had such a low return rate for our early ballots (77%), in Maricopa County 65% of our turnout was by mail.

Election Center

- Group: National Association of Election Officials
- Data:
 - EAC Election Day Survey
 - Academic Studies by University of New Orleans
- Focus: Administration and Management of Elections



• Originating in the spring of 2010, the Benchmarking Task Force is comprised of election administrators from across the country, local and state, urban and rural, large and small, sharing a common goal.

MISSION:

To identify common measures which can be used by state and local election administrators for the continuous improvement of the elections process.



BENCHMARKING TASK FORCE MEMBERS

Al Davidson, Deputy of Elections, Arapahoe County, CO
Brenda Snipes, Supervisor of Elections, Broward County, FL
Brian Newby, Election Commissioner, Johnson County, KS
Christopher McGinn, Precinct Liaison, Guilford County. NC
Conni Sinks, Administrator, Washington County, TN
Gary Smith, Election Director (retired) Forsyth County, GA
J. Kirk Showalter, General Registrar, City of Richmond, VA
Jacquelyn Callanen, Elections Administrator, Bexar County, TX
Jim Milliken, Deputy Director, Jackson County, OH
John Gardner, IS Mgr. /Asst. Chief Deputy, El Paso County, CO
John Lindback, Pew Foundation

Linda Lindberg, General Registrar, Arlington County, VA

Lori Stottler, Clerk, Rock County, WI

Mary Beth Erickson, Director of Elections, Platte County, MO

Michael Hardin, Deputy Supervisor of Elec., Escambia County, FL

Nancy Boren, Director, Muscogee County, GA

Oscar Villarreal, Elections Administrator, Webb County, TX

Paula Roberts, Director, Cleveland County, OK

Poonam Davis, Elections Bureau Mgr., City of Long Beach, CA

Rene LeBeau, Program Manager Ballot Processing, King County, WA

Robin Meyers, Deputy Clerk, Clay County, MO

Roger Munz, Training Director, Collier County, FL

Rokey Suleman, Exec. Director, Washington, DC

Sara Harris, Deputy Election Director, Montgomery County, MD

Scott Marshall, Exec. Director, Beaufort County, SC,

Shelley McThomas, Director, Kansas City, MO

Sheryl Moss, Cert. & Training Mgr. State of WA

Steve Weir, Clerk-Recorder, Contra Costa County, CA

Tammy Patrick, Federal Compliance Officer, Maricopa County, AZ

Trena Parker, Director, Buncombe County, NC

Ex Officio Members, the Election Center Board of Directors:

Doug Lewis, Executive Director, Houston TX

Robert Montjoy, University of New Orleans

Julie Pearson, Auditor, Pennington County, Rapid City, SD

Ernie Hawkins, Chairman, Board of Directors, Sacramento CA

Task Force Chair:

Keith A. Cunningham, Special Projects Manager, Ohio Secretary of State

Observer:

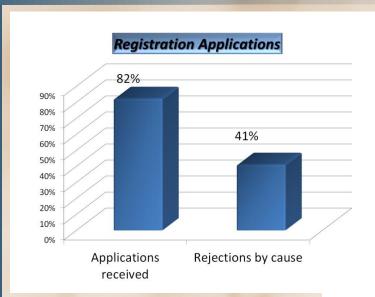
Tom Wilkey. U.S. Election Assistance Commission, Washington DC

UNO Survey of Election

Administrators

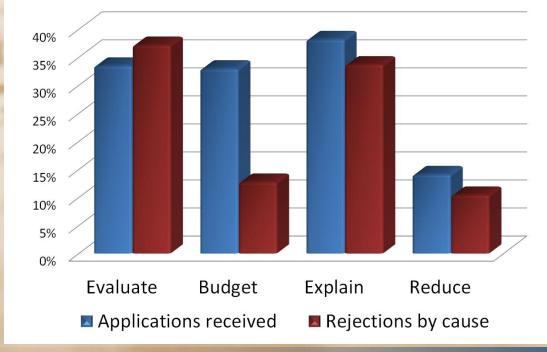
- Find the starting point: before moving the Task Force forward, we first sought to find out what data was already being collected, and how it was being used.
- University of New Orleans surveyed election administrators about these topics:
 - Costs
 - Registration
 - Poll workers
 - Voting equipment
 - Ballots
 - Mail ballots
 - Polling Places
 - Voting operations
 - Provisional ballots
 - Vote counting
- And asked if the data was used for:
 - Evaluation
 - Budgeting
 - Explanation of functions
 - Reduction

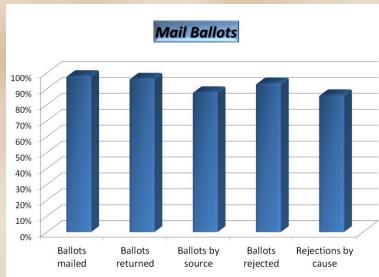
Lets look at a couple early summaries of the replies to see what data is currently being collected and how it is being used.



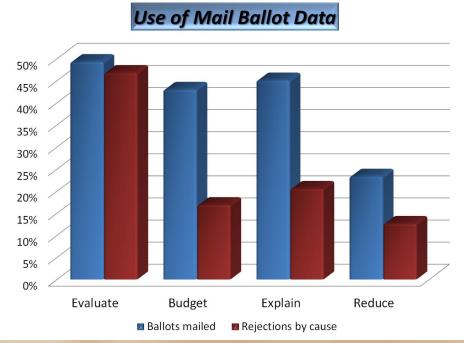
VR Measures

Uses of Registration Application Data



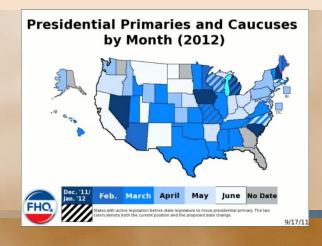


Vote by Mail



End Product

- This project is still in its inception phase and anticipates being a long-term, multi-year adventure.
- Because the participants are 99% election administrators there will be the occasional interruption in the group's progress—a slowdown every other year or so with an almost complete halt during the presidential election cycles



Elections Performance Index Pew Center on the States

- Group: Pew Researchers, and an advisory board comprised of Election Administrators, Demographers, & Academics
- Data:
 - EAC Election Day Survey
 - Census data
 - Statutory Overview
 - Academic studies
- Focus:



Pew Center on the States

Efficient Elections: Costs and Outputs

NCSL Legislative Summit: Aug. 8, 2011



Time: 0:5:14

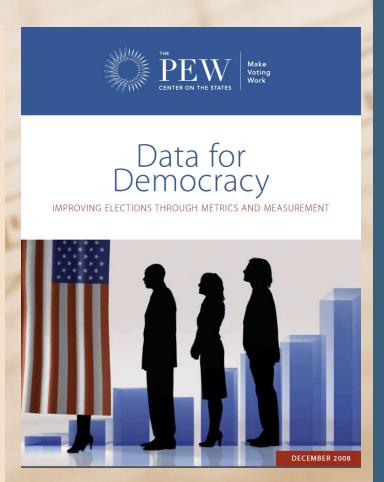
Speaker

Zachary Markovits, senior associate, Pew Center on the States

The Pew Elections Performance Index will provide an empirical assessment of how well the nation's democracy is working.

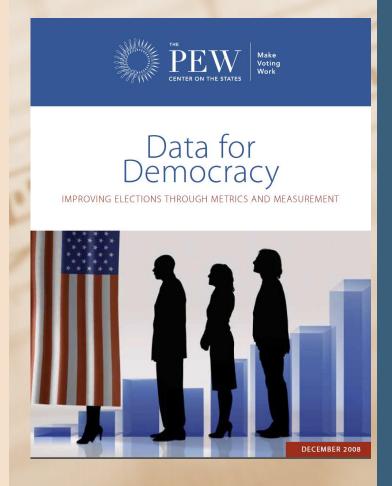
Pew Center on the States: The Start of the Index

- "Data for Democracy Improving Elections through Metrics and Measurement, a compendium of research that ...begins to look at how data is collected in the field.
- It highlights states that do a robust job of collecting and reporting data, examines challenges faced in data collection in the field and assesses the diversity of data and data collection mechanisms among local governments."



Pew Center on the States: The Start of the Index

- "Among the data collection efforts highlighted in the publication:
 - An effort by Maryland to assess voting patterns through the use of electronic poll-book data.
 - An information reporting system in Maricopa County, Ariz. enabling a review of voting-machine performance, supply and distribution problems and poll worker effectiveness.
 - A look at how data and transparency could have averted the "double bubble" problems in Los Angeles County's 2008 presidential preference primary.
 - The use of geographic information system (GIS) data to maximize the efficiency of polling-place locations in Forsyth County, Georgia."



Pew Center on the States

"Pew has been working in collaboration with leading election officials, policy makers and academics to identify a set of essential measures of the health of states' and localities' election systems. Using the best available data, the Pew Elections Performance Index will look over time and across states to provide an empirical assessment of how well our nation is conducting elections based on such criteria as: the accuracy of voter registration rolls; the integrity of military and absentee voting processes; and the design and security of voting technology and ballots."

Data Dispatch

- Launched on September 27th, Pew is now doing a weekly "Data Dispatch" conveying information on election administration.
- This will certainly be a great place to locate comparative data.



Election Data Dispatches



Election Administration by the Numbers

About Election Data Dispatches

Election Data Dispatches provides data, research and analysis about election administration in America.

Although we link to external research data and other materials, we do not independently verify external research, endorse the reports or affirm the authors' opinions.

Cautionary Tales... WHY ENSURING DATA IS ACCURATE AND CORRECT CONCLUSIONS ARE DRAWN IS IMPORTANT

Indexing & Comparison
Inevitably discussion turns to registration and turnout. But there are many subtleties to consider when discussing registration:

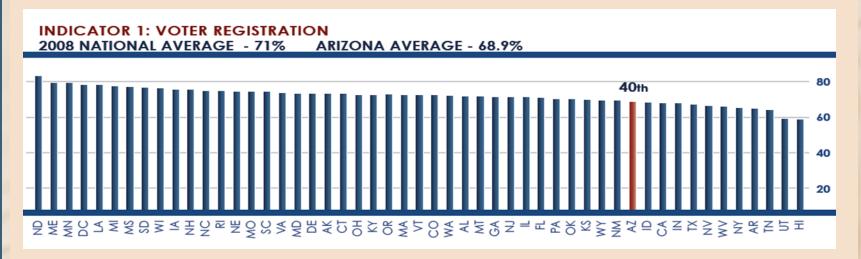
 What numerator/denominator to use? For Arizona it makes a BIG difference if you are asking about the percentage of Census Voting Age Population (VAP) or Citizen Eligible Population (CEP); when comparing to another state does that state include inactive voters on their rolls? Or just active status?

Depending on the numbers used, AZ has a 20% swing in rate

Measure of registrants	Measure of eligibles	Rate
Active only	VAP	62.3%
Active only	VEP	71.1%
Active + Inactive	VAP	71.8%
Active+ Inactive	VEP	82.6%

2010 Civic Health Index Voter Registration

 North Dakota, which has no registration requirement, was listed as the highest ranking of registered voters.



 The use of VAP or VEP is a critical element when comparing states which may have a higher number of individuals counted by the Census but whom are not eligible to register—this can be due to citizenship, felony status, adjudication, etc.

Indexing & Comparison

- Voter Registration List Maintenance:
 - If a jurisdiction does not have a vigorous list maintenance routine to keep their rolls current, then they would rank higher potentially masking shortcomings in outreach, access, etc.
 - However, for jurisdictions which do maintain more accurate rolls culled of those who have moved or passed away would be penalized because Census data is not updated as frequently.
 - In some of the rankings there are states scoring higher than
 Arizona but have existing litigation with DOJ for failure to comply with the National Voter Registration Act (NVRA).

Indexing & Comparison

One must also be careful to ask the right questions in regards to resource allocation:

- Number of machines is most impactful if using DREs, and if not weighted, would benefit those jurisdictions—optical scan usually is 1 per polling place, DREs are multiple per location since the voter has to have one in order to vote.
- Number of workers may be reduced due to use of electronic poll books or other technical aids.
- How do vote centers impact the conversation?

Indexing & Comparison

The same caveat goes for other measures:

- Turnout may be impacted by:
 - What is on the ballot—controversial issues, charismatic candidates increase turnout.
 - Date of election: day after Labor Day
- Short lines may mean:
 - Voter apathy
 - Lack of voter notification or education
 - Voter intimidation
 - "Voter fatigue"—not just at the end of the ballot, but frequent elections can impact voter's attention span
 - A long line is not ALWAYS bad!

